

Hafa Adai!

Girl testifies she had sex, including
foursome, with Roberto. » **PAGE 3**

3 allegedly caught in act of
stealing copper wires. » **PAGE 5**

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75¢

'The Palms may no longer be under Sheraton brand'

» **\$20M to \$30M renovation to be completed end-October 2015**
» **Kim: It's not true we're negotiating with Best Sunshine**



Camia Sai Batenga, 2, frolics in the renovated pool of Coral Ocean Point, part of a \$40-million, multi-year renovation that E Land's Micronesian Resort Inc. has undertaken, along with a planned renovation of the former The Palms Resort in San Roque. E Land plans to call a news briefing this week for an update on its Coral Ocean Point projects.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The good news is that South Korean investment giant E Land is working hard to complete its multi-million renovation of the former The Palms Resort in San Roque by end-October 2015, making available 313 more rooms to the recovering tourism industry. The dismaying news is that the hotel may not be able to reopen under the global brand Sheraton.

"The very important thing is to complete the renovation before high season next year," Taeho Kim, chief operating officer of E Land's Micronesian Resort Inc., told *Saipan Tribune* on Friday.

Having another global hotel brand in the CNMI besides Hyatt Regency Saipan is seen to further boost the CNMI's image as a tourist destination in the Western Pacific.

Kim, through MRI's Dennis Seo, said the former The Palms Resort will reopen under one of E Land's own brands if the Sheraton brand cannot be used by the time the \$20 million to \$30 million renovations are done.

This comes five months since E Land's MRI held a ceremony at the former The Palms Resort announcing a working partnership with Sheraton, over Hilton.

See PALMS on Page 4

Senate vacancy declared

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER



Torres

The Senate declared a vacancy on Friday afternoon following the resignation of Ray N. Yumul, now a certified independent candidate for lieutenant governor in the Nov. 4 general elections.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) wrote Gov. Eloy S. Inos a letter late Friday afternoon, a day after a Senate session wherein they formally

See SENATE on Page 4

Saipan joins Ice Bucket Challenge bandwagon

» **Donations reach \$53.3 million worldwide**

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

The "ALS Ice Bucket Challenge," which is taking the nation by storm, has lapped onto the shores of Saipan, with dozens of island residents taking part in the challenge. It involves

a person pouring buckets of ice water over their head on video, posting the video on social media, then nominating friends and family to do the same, in an effort to raise awareness for ALS.

Amyotrophic lateral

RELATED NEWS

► **US diplomats barred from ice bucket challenge.**
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► **Ice bucket challenge may change nonprofit world.**
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sclerosis, or ALS, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells and pathways in the brain and spinal cord, according to the ALS Asso-

ciation's website. The disease, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is when the cells die, which causes voluntary muscle control and movement to die with them.

As of Aug. 22, 2014, the association has received over \$50 million in donations. The non-profit organiza-

See ICE BUCKET on Page 4

INSIDE



ASIA

China accuses Washington of mounting several close-in reconnaissance operations.

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FOCUS

Facial hair takes on heavy political overtones in the Uighur heartland.

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LIFE & STYLE

The ice bucket challenge's success is making other organizations rethink their pitches.

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Local

September is Cultural Heritage Month

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

A proclamation that honors the cultural heritage of the CNMI was signed Friday morning at the Carolinian Utt along Beach Road in Garapan.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider inked the proclamation that declared the month of September Cultural Heritage Month.

Joining them in signing the proclamation were members of the public, DFS Saipan executives, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs officials, and other stakeholders.

Florence Kirby, Cultural Heritage Month committee chair, said the occasion serves to remind the CNMI community of the teachings of our parents and

grandparents on tradition and how tradition leads the life for future generation.

"Customs are passed down from our ancestors and the passing of our tradition from our parents equals our customs," Kirby said.

Cultural Heritage Month will give the island community opportunities to showcase their unique influences and preservation of indigenous and cultural activities and aspirations that will continue to inspire young generations.

"We affirm our common wish to live together in peace and harmony within the diversity of our cultures for they will only enrich us, not separate us. Our ancestors, who made their homes on these islands, displaced no one," the proclamation states.

Inos said the Carolinian Utt, which is undergoing renovation, is a great setting to sign the Heritage Month proclamation.

"The Carolinian Utt is a very special place for me indeed. When I took office and appointed the executive director for Carolinian Affairs, I sat down with him and I told him we need to do something about Carolinian Utt and preserve our culture as well," Inos said.

According to project contractor Heinz Staffler, the new hut being built will use about 10,800 *congo* bushes and will last three years. The project is being sponsored by DFS.

Staffler noted the new Carolinian Utt is expected to be finished by next week and will include a large stage.

Heritage Month coordina-

tor Gordon Marciano said that several activities have been lined up for this month's celebration, including the inaugural International Festival of Cultures.

On Sept. 23, there will be a ceremony to honor the 13 fishermen who lost their lives at sea and are memorialized

by the 13 Fishermen's Monument along Beach Road. This will be followed by Chief Aghurubw Day on Sept. 27, to honor the Carolinian navigator who resettled his people in the Northern Marianas in 1815 after a major typhoon destroyed their islands in Satawal, which is now part of the Federated

States of Micronesia..

"I invite the community and everyone in the CNMI to come together and celebrate with us in remembering our past and noting for our future generation of our traditions and customs. Let us make this month a memorable month," Inos said.

NMHC expo reaches out on how to obtain a home

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. held a housing expo on Friday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe to educate the public about how to obtain their own homes.

A total of 54 organizations joined the expo's opening day, with dignitaries such as Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio C. Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) giving special remarks.

In his speech, Inos said he will continue to work with NMHC to get housing projects going in the future.

"It is a pleasure to see so many different organizations trying to help the community out in building a new home, housing, financials, and many more that is in the interest of the community to find out about the many institutions involved," Inos said.

Sablan said that people should take risks, like he did when he wanted to get a house.

"NMHC helped me a lot in the past because NMHC took a risk for standing borrowers for housing," he said.

Sablan also presented NMHC officials with a congressional

commendation commemorating the agency's anniversary.

NMHC's board chair Marcie M. Tomokane said that NMHC has always endeavored to improve its delivery of effective and efficient services to families in need of housing assistance.

"The Community Development Block Grant program has funded countless projects pursued by public, private, and non-profit organizations CNMI-wide and NMHC will continue to provide this community service in the years to come," Tomokane said.

She said the goal of the housing expo is to provide an opportunity for NMHC and participating organizations to network, showcase, and promote their products and services, as well as share their experiences and accomplishments with the community.

One member of the public said he was there to look at the housing benefits due to his low income.

"I read on the paper about NMHC's housing programs last week and I wanted to come and find out. I feel good that I don't have to drive all the way to Garapan when everybody is here," he said.

One key player, REMAX

Paradise Realty's Mable E. Ayuyu, said that they were there to show community members the services their company can provide.

Ayuyu said that they actively list real estate properties on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and show houses, apartments, and commercial spaces to potential clients.

"We're here to provide our services to interested members of the community and tell them what services we provide," she said.

Community members enjoyed help from bank and financial institutes, contractors and developers, insurance and title companies, realtor companies, suppliers, architects and engineers, appraisal companies, non-profit organizations, and government agencies.

"It is a great turnout and from all the housing expos I have been through, this is by far the best expo we have had in many years with so many participating key agents," Tomokane said.

"As a community, we must come together to ensure that every person who calls the CNMI home receives the housing assistance they rightfully deserve. Home is where life begins," she added.



JAYSON CAMACHO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider sign the proclamation declaring September Cultural Heritage Month at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan on Friday.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

**JTB World
Vacations Co-op**

In cooperation with **JTB World Vacations** in Japan, the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** created a special tour brochure last month titled **"Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Our Saipan Services by Delta Air Lines."** In addition to tour pages, the brochure includes two special pages dedicated to a variety of attractions in the Northern Mariana Islands. Targeting seniors, families of preschoolers, and first-time visitors, the co-op promotion will run from Aug. 1 to Dec. 24, 2014.



As of July, 150 bookings had already been made.

So far this fiscal year, the Northern Marianas has received 92,790 visitors from Japan, comprising 25 percent of total visitor arrivals.



Girl testifies she had sex, including foursome, with Roberto

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A 16-year-old girl testified Friday in federal court about her alleged numerous sex encounters with former acting Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond B. Roberto in 2013, including a foursome with him and two other underage girls.

The girl, who was 15 when the alleged sex occurred, said that Roberto would pay her in exchange for having sex with him and that he also paid the two other girls.

The girl will continue her testi-

mony today, Monday, in the trial of the 40-year-old Roberto, who is charged with three counts of enticing three underage girls to engage in prostitution and one count of witness tampering.

The girl took the witness stand after FBI special agent Joe McDoulett completed his testimony Friday morning. Guam attorney David J. Lujan, lead counsel for Roberto, grilled the special agent from Thursday to Friday morning.

The girl testified that in the first incident, Roberto picked her up with his Toyota Tacoma and drove her to the Parkville

Motel in Gualo Rai. Inside the motel, Roberto reportedly told her to remove her clothes. She said she was scared so she took off her clothes.

When Assistant U.S. Attorney Rami S. Badawy asked what happened next, the girl, who kept swinging her chair throughout her testimony, paused for a few seconds, then answered, "I had sexual intercourse with Ray [Roberto]."

Roberto, who was seated next to one of his two counsels, was seen writing notes on a pad.

The girl said Roberto gave her \$150 cash in exchange for sex

and dropped her off in As Matuis.

After that, she said, she had sex with Roberto at least twice or thrice a week, always in exchange for money. She said she and Roberto communicated through text messages.

The girl said she saved on her contact list the name "Jerald" for Roberto so if anybody gets her cell phone, nobody would know him.

She said Roberto stated one time that he wanted to have sex with other girls her age. She said she then reached out to a friend and a third cousin, who were the same age as she was.

The girl said at first she told her friend that she had a babysitting job, but later told her that she was actually having sex for a fee.

She said after exchanging text messages, Roberto picked her up at Bantalan (Sugar Dock) then they proceeded to a road near CYC Market in Kagman. She said her friend and her third cousin were there, waiting for her and Roberto.

The girl said they went to Parkville Motel where they had sex with Roberto. After that, she said Roberto gave them \$300 and they shared \$100 each.

The girl also identified a photo of Roberto's Tacoma truck that he used in picking them up and dropping them off.

After their April 19 sexual encounter, the girl said she and

Roberto had more sex in exchange for money. She said she and Roberto had sex at his residence on Airport Road and at his farm next to the Benavente Apartments in As Lito.

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MILE CNMI finds consensus with Dems on minimum wage hike

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Youth members of voter awareness-group MILE CNMI met with Edward Deleon Guerrero and Daniel Quitigua, as well as other Democratic Party candidates in this year's elections, as part of their efforts to promote voter registration among their fellow youth as well as to learn more about the candidates and Commonwealth issues in general.

One issue the two groups found consensus on was minimum wage, as general sentiment among the participants favored increasing the minimum wage, currently set at \$5.55 an hour; it will go up by 50 cents to \$6.05 an hour this September.

Quitigua said he did not support the previous suspensions—in 2013 and in 2015—of the yearly increase in the CNMI's minimum wage.

He said if elected, he and Deleon Guerrero will push for better wages for the people in the Commonwealth.

"The cost of living exceeds far more than wage earned... So the ability to pay our bills are still coming short, even you are

[making minimum wage]," said Quitigua.

In an informal poll of MILE CNMI members after the meeting, *Saipan Tribune* learned that the members present favored an increase.

The issue was a part of a larger discussion led by the two candidates on an issue that primarily concerned the group: the economy.

Speaking on reversing the

"imbalances" they see in the Commonwealth, Guerrero and Quitigua talked about raising the minimum wage, reversing the imbalance of foreign workers employed versus U.S. workers employed, and creating internal business activity for more resources to move within the CNMI.

Deleon Guerrero argued for an "equal playing ground" in terms of taxes paid by local and

foreign businesses, saying that small local businesses are "almost dying to pay taxes."

"Why are we...exempting [foreign investors] from paying tax when they are the ones who can afford to pay taxes?" he asked.

Deleon Guerrero described a discrepancy between what he believes is actually made in terms of revenue and how much

See **MILE CNMI on Next Page**



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Gubernatorial bets off to Oregon for Labor Day campaign

» Others head also for other states

Four gubernatorial candidates are headed for Portland, Oregon, in time for the 10th Annual CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament, which has become a campaign ground every election year besides being a special reunion for those from the CNMI now living in different parts of the U.S. mainland.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos left yesterday for Oregon, said acting press secretary Ivan Blanco. Inos' running mate, Senate

President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), joins him.

Blanco said the governor will be visiting CNMI residents in the U.S. mainland, prior to the games.

"The governor will be back [to the CNMI] for the government Labor Day festivities this coming Sunday," Blanco said.

Independent gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta, along with his running mate, former senator Juan Torres, are

also Oregon-bound, said their campaign team's Juan S. Reyes. The Babauta-Torres team will also be meeting with CNMI residents in other states such as California.

Democratic Party chair Rosiky Camacho also confirmed last night that their gubernatorial candidate, Edward "Tofila" M. Deleon Guerrero, is also headed for Oregon. But Camacho said Deleon Guerrero's running mate, Daniel Quitagua, will be staying behind to attend a fundraising in Guam.

Independent gubernatorial candidate Heinz S. Hofschneider is also reportedly headed for Oregon, but his running mate, former Senate floor leader Ray N. Yumul, will be staying here.

Besides a four-way gubernatorial race on Nov. 4, the CNMI is also likely headed for a gubernatorial runoff race if not one of the teams gets at least 50 percent plus 1 of the votes cast during the general elections. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**



DENNIS B. CHAN

Youth members of voter awareness-group MILE CNMI pose with Democratic Party candidates Edward Deleon Guerrero and Daniel Quitagua after their meeting.

MILE CNMI

From Page 3

of that actually goes to help the CNMI's people.

"You go to Garapan, and you go to the hotels and you see a lot of tourists. Sometimes you have to make reservation to go to brunch, but you go to Kagman, you go to the villages and look around. ...There are people without power, without water and you see how dilapidated some of the places they are stay-

ing," Deleon Guerrero said.

One economic plan they laid out to the young voters was to "industrialize and culturalize" Marpi by tolling tourists that visit the area, with tourists being ferried via trolley to upgraded and new tourist sites such as a cultural center.

Deleon Guerrero believes the economy can be fixed internally through the people and businesses of the Commonwealth "without all these things that are happening right now."

He cited the new casino

industry, one that the candidates believe has been set up as a predetermined monopoly as they lamented the lack of "competition" provided under the current casino license agreement and spoke of the other problems the casino industry will bring.

"There's going to be a lot more penalties and issues and money we are going to spend just to ensure the casino is run properly on Saipan," Deleon Guerrero said. "We need to have compliance people, we

need to have lawyers to watch them. ...Who's gonna pay for that? Us."

MILE CNMI is currently working to meet with independent candidates Juan Babauta and Juan Torres as they conclude their meetings with this year's gubernatorial candidates.

They previously met with independent bets Heinz Hofschneider and Sen. Ray Yumul, as well the GOP's Gov. Eloy Inos and his running mate, Sen. Ralph Torres, in the last two weeks.

PALMS

From Page 1

Kim said the top management in Seoul, Korea, wanted the former The Palms to reopen by end-October 2015 to meet their internal deadline and to avail of a growing tourism industry.

He, however, said that E Land's MRI continues to negotiate with Sheraton.

But the negotiations have been meeting some challenges, that's why E Land may not be able to use the global brand Sheraton when the hotel across the former La Fiesta Mall reopens. Kim said if the negotiations with Sheraton continue to delay the target reopening of end-October 2015, then E Land will move forward with reopening the hotel under their own brand.

Sheraton is owned by and is the largest and most popular global brand of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc., one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with nearly 1,200 properties in

100 countries.

"Again, our goal is to reopen The Palms as soon as possible within our planned schedule. To be delayed more, it can affect the entire CNMI tourism business. Our goal is to open it by end-October 2015," Kim added.

E Land's MRI has started removing what the hotel industry calls the "furniture, fixture and equipment" from the third floor up.

Kim said E Land's MRI has tentatively scheduled Oct. 24 this year as groundbreaking for the actual renovation of the former The Palms Resort.

The 12-month renovation will be done by E Land's Construction Company, their "Structural and Construction" subsidiary. He said they will tap local construction companies as subcontractors, similar to what they are doing in renovating Coral Ocean Point.

He said it is still tentative because by that time, government officials might already be too busy campaigning for the Nov. 4 general elections to participate

in the ceremony.

Kim added that E Land will fulfill its promise to bring over 300 guest rooms back online, with Saipan running out of available rooms for tourists. Right now, Korea has already toppled Japan as the CNMI's prime tourist market while the China market continues to go up.

"Our budget for renovation is around \$20 million to \$30 million," Kim added.

The hotel currently has 313 rooms. But because E Land's plan is to have more suites, the number of rooms may shrink a bit when the hotel reopens.

"We believe the government or the Marianas Visitors Authority is aware of our big interest in investing in the CNMI. So if there is any opportunity for us, we will be very excited and we will be able to work for another project," Kim said.

Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), one of the lawmakers who attended E Land's ceremony in March announcing their partnership with Sheraton, said yesterday that the former The Palms Resort is a private

property so he as a government official does not want to interfere or comment on this particular project.

Other hotels owned by E Land in the CNMI include Coral Ocean Point and Pacific Islands Club.

'Not true about Best Sunshine'

Kim belied earlier reports from other media that E Land or MRI has communicated or negotiated with Best Sunshine International Ltd. involving the former The Palms Resort property. Best Sunshine bagged an exclusive license to build an integrated casino resort on Saipan.

"Not at all," Kim said. "We haven't even met anybody from Best Sunshine...nor received any phone call from them. We don't know them. We are not interested in selling our property The Palms at all. I don't know where that rumor is coming from."

Best Sunshine is also racing against time to find tracts of land for their integrated casino resort.

ICE BUCKET

From Page 1

tion will use the donations toward providing care services to assist people with ALS and their families, while continuously searching for new treatments and a cure.

"Patients in the later stages of the disease are totally paralyzed, yet in most cases, their minds remain sharp and alert," the ALS Association added.

An average of 15 people are diagnosed with the disease every day; that is more than 5,000 people per year. Currently, ALS is responsible for two deaths for every 100,000 people.

"ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic boundaries. ALS can strike anyone. Every single American is threatened by this disease," the website explained.

Saipan participants' support pours in

The challenge has not only been taken up by teenagers on social media, but also by some of the island's current government leaders. Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero was one of the first people who took on the Ice Bucket Challenge. Guerrero nominated several people, including independent lieutenant governor candidate Ray N. Yumul and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

Yumul posted a video on Facebook of himself taking the challenge publicly at a gathering on Saturday. After being doused with ice-cold water, he nominated Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and Vice Speaker Francisco S. Dela Cruz, among others.

In a recent post on social

media, Delegate Sablan said he wants to take part in the challenge but is barred from doing so because of a "prohibition in the House Members Handbook and in the Ethics Manual on the use of official resources for the promotion or benefit of any private charitable cause."

He, however, expressed his support. "I wish everyone my best wishes and support for this very successful, commendable cause," he said.

Teenagers online have been nominating their peers throughout the month, filling their news feeds with support for the ALS Association.

One resident, Jonathan Taimanao, said the Ice Bucket Challenge is important because it brings a real and pertinent medical issue to the forefront of common dialogue.

"The best thing about it is that it mixes antics and encouragement for people to use social networks to spread the word. Time will only tell how far this goes, but I think it's fun," he said.

Saipan resident Andrea Lazaro said that, although some people who take the challenge are not fully aware of the disease, "they still contribute to raising awareness and raising money for research."

Beth Ann Nunez told *Saipan Tribune* that she, along with her husband and three children, all participated in the effort to raise awareness and money for the association.

She said, "I think the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge has brought much needed awareness to this disease and to those whose lives it has devastated."

To learn more about the ALS Association and the Ice Bucket Challenge visit <http://www.alsa.org>.

SENATE

From Page 1

accepted Yumul's resignation letter. Torres' office received the resignation letter on Wednesday morning.

Yumul was Senate floor leader from January 2013 to August 2014.

"Accordingly, the Senate declares that a vacancy exists at the Senate and respectfully requests your office to call for a special election to fill the vacancy in the Senate pursuant to Article II Section 9 of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution and 1 CMC 6502. Your immediate attention to this matter is greatly appreciated," Torres wrote the governor.

Acting press secretary Ivan Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a note was prepared Friday to declare a special election but there was no word whether Inos signed it before the governor left for Oregon yesterday.

The governor is expected to return in time for this Sunday's Labor Day festivities on Saipan,

Blanco said.

Torres' letter also was sent a day after the Senate passed on first and final reading a bill that once signed into law would prohibit the seven candidates that were already certified to run for two Senate seats in the Nov. 4 general elections to also run for a special election to fill the third Saipan senatorial seat that Yumul vacated.

Saipan senatorial candidate Stephen Woodruff, along with some of the candidates, also said if the governor waits just two weeks until Sept. 5 to issue the call for a special election, "the special election can be held concurrently with the general election as I propose, and no legislative action is required."

Holding the two separate elections in one day will save the government \$70,000 to \$80,000.

A former Senate legal counsel, Woodruff also suggests that when the governor calls for a special election, he should also proclaim that the currently certified candidates for the general election shall also be deemed candidates in the special election, among other things.

3 allegedly caught in act of stealing copper wires

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Alert police officers arrested three men who were allegedly caught in the act of stealing copper wire from the Koreana Hotel along Beach Road in Chalan

Kanoa early Saturday morning.

Police sources disclosed that arrested were Nelson Ramon, 34; Jonathan Blas, 30; and Patrick Mendiola, 37.

The suspects are expected

» 4th suspect confesses to cops

to be taken for an initial bail hearing today, Monday, before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

A \$20,000 cash bail each was initially imposed for the

suspects.

Sources said a fourth person, who was allegedly part of the burglary, was at the scene and immediately confessed and cooperated with the police.

The fourth suspect was taken to the police station. *Saipan Tri-*

bune opted not to disclose his name for now as it was not clear if he has also been charged.

Sources said that police received a call from a woman about a copper wire theft in progress. Officers responded to the Koreana Hotel, where they caught the

suspects exiting through a small window of a generator room at about 3:30am.

Police recovered from the suspects large portions of copper wires cut into pieces of 50 to 100 feet and rolled into bundles.

Russian tourist sues dentist, clinic for allegedly defective tooth extraction

A frequent Russian visitor is suing a dentist and his clinic for alleged negligence during the extraction of a tooth that created a defect in his gums.

Pavel Soloviev, through counsel William Fitzgerald, is suing Dr. Alan Stuart Markoff and Toothworks Inc. in the U.S. District Court for the NMI for negligence and violation of the Consumer Protection Act. Soloviev is demanding unspecified damages, court costs and attorney's fees.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to obtain comments from Markoff.

Soloviev, a resident of Vladivostok, Russia, is a frequent visitor to Saipan in the last 10 years.

According to the complaint, Markoff extracted one of Soloviev's teeth on Nov. 2, 2011, at Markoff's advice. Soon after,

Soloviev began having extreme pain and he returned to Toothworks to have the problem corrected.

Fitzgerald said that Markoff told Soloviev that there was no problem, that the extraction had been performed correctly, and that any pain was caused by the patient's smoking. The dentist then prescribed antibiotics and painkillers.

Soloviev continued to be treated by Toothworks and Markoff throughout 2012, specifically in January, February, August, and September. He said during these treatments, Toothworks and Markoff claimed to have closed an oral antral fistula.

On Aug. 24, 2012, Fitzgerald said, the dentist probed the oral antral fistula to locate a foreign body in Soloviev's sinus, falsely reporting in their records that they had located and removed it.

On Sept. 11, 2012, Soloviev sought treatment at Toothworks for the worsening problem of his sinus, complaining of pus coming out of his nose.

Markoff again allegedly prescribed antibiotics and painkillers, and advised anew that patient's problem was caused by his smoking.

Fitzgerald said that despite several attempts to treat Solo-

viev's sinus problem, his condition became progressively worse. After nine months, Soloviev finally sought help from a Russian dentist in Vladivostok, Dr. E.D. Edranov, on Sept. 26, 2012.

Upon examination, Fitzgerald said that Edranov found a hole in Soloviev's gum tissue where Markoff had extracted his tooth, forming an open hole

between the mouth and the maxillary sinus cavity.

Fitzgerald said the hole was lined with red and edematous tissue, filled with thick mucus, and was oozing purulent pus, and a foreign substance was found lodged in his sinus, which was causing his problem.

Edranov diagnosed Soloviev as suffering from a chronic and severe genyantritis, requiring immediate surgery to correct.

On Oct. 11, 2012, Edranov

operated on Soloviev, opening his maxillary sinus and removing the foreign material and the purulent pus.

Fitzgerald said that Markoff failed to properly seal the hole and instead applied an artificial substance normally used for creating a temporary bridge.

The lawyer said this foreign substance then migrated through the hole that Markoff had created into Soloviev's sinus cavity. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



Procurement And Supply CNMI Government



INVITATION FOR BID

IFB NO.: IFB14-CHCC-137(A-D)-CIF SAIPAN

Submission Date: September 12, 2014 • Time: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC HOSPITAL BEDS, BIRTHING BEDS, ICU BEDS AND NP100 PREVENTION SURFACE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Questions should be directed to Mr. Warren P. Villagomez, Hospital Emergency Preparedness Director at (670) 236-8762, or fax to (670) 236-8769 no later than the close of business, August 29, 2014.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
Chief Executive Officer, CHCC

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-005

6-IN DIP WATERLINE ABANDONMENT FOR SAN VICENTE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the abandonment and installation of waterlines in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project consists, in general, of abandonment by cut and cap of existing six (6) inch ductile iron pipe (DIP) water main along Chalan Msgr. Guerrero Rd and the reconnection of any existing service laterals onto near or adjacent service mains. It also includes the installation of a new four (4) inch PVC waterline complete with new flush hydrant, all necessary valves, fittings, service connections, and water meter reconnections, as well as asphalt paving restoration, traffic control, soil erosion control, etc. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **150 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, wire transfer or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set. Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-14-005, 6-in DIP Waterline Abandonment for San Vicente Area Extension Project", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 17, 2014**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bid in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 2, 2014** to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply Division, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to James Benavente, Junior Engineer, CUC Water/Wastewater Division via email address james.benavente@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director,
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

MANNY B. SABLAN
Manager, Procurement & Supply
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Patel is named Civil Division chief

Acting attorney general Gilbert Birnrich has named Reena Patel as the Civil Division chief effective Aug. 13, 2014. Patel succeeds Birnrich since vacating the post upon his promotion to deputy attorney general in December 2013.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Patel to chief of Civil Division," said Birnrich. "It is evident through her hard work that Ms. Patel will continue to succeed in our office, and most importantly, in her new role as chief. I can attest to her capabilities and her commitment to serve

the people of the CNMI."

As division chief, Patel's duties and responsibilities will be that of administering the day-to-day operations of the department.

"I am honored to be offered the position of chief of the Civil Division. I look forward to continue serving the people of the Commonwealth in my new role," says Patel.

Patel, a native of New York City, received her undergraduate degree from New York University in 2000, a law degree from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in

2008, and an L.L.M in international trade in 2009. After law school, Patel entered private practice in San Diego until she moved to the CNMI in March 2012 to serve as an assistant attorney general. While working at the Office of the Attorney General, Patel has served as legal counsel to numerous government agencies including Commerce, Labor, and Consumer Counsel. Patel has also served as the lead attorney for the CNMI government in the Retirement Fund case, along with several other cases. **(OAG)**

Community joins BECQ Snorkels event

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

About 35 children and adults joined the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's second free CNMI Snorkels event at the Kili Beach Park in Susupe.

BECQ partnered with Let's Move Marianas and Mariana Islands Nature Alliance in an event that saw children led by BECQ's Ryan Okado, John Iguel, Denise Perez, and Avra Heller snorkel toward the submerged World War II Sherman tank in the beach's water.

With free snorkels provided after families and their children signed up, the children

were encouraged to inspect the many kinds of fish they saw in the water.

According to Heller, the event is to help the community get out and "learn about the marine ecosystem" as well to exercise.

They hope to hold this event every other month and in various beaches around the island like Wing Beach.

Patricia Kaipat of Let's Move Marianas said that instead of video games, youth can learn in depth about what happens in the ocean and "make use of what you have," with events like this.

She said that in that past, children always followed their parents to fish or farm. It was "good for [children] to start

early," in getting physically active, she said.

Most of the participants were young children and youth, ranging from 6 to 19 years old, according to a sign-up sheet available.

Jiang Banatalao, who happened to be on the beach with family without knowing of the event beforehand, took advantage of the opportunity and allowed her two sons to join.

She said that at home there is "no playground, no anything like that... so [it is] better outside."

Marion Sayas, who came with his brother, sister, and mother, said the event was "fun." His favorite part was swimming to the submerged tank, as it was his first time to do so.



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Firefighter asks court to delay hearing on breach of plea deal

Richard S. Benavente, a firefighter who pleaded guilty to one count of exploitation of a child, has asked to postpone the U.S. government's sealed motion to declare him in breach of his plea agreement.

Michael Dotts, Benavente's new lawyer, said the U.S. government's motion to declare Benavente in breach of plea agreement is set for a hearing

tomorrow, Tuesday, at 1:30pm, and the sentencing hearing will be on Sept. 10, 2014.

Dotts said Benavente is expected to testify at the ongoing trial of Raymond Borja Roberto, a former acting director of Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The lawyer said the trial of Roberto does not look likely to end by tomorrow, Tuesday.

Dotts said that Benavente's

testimony in the Roberto case goes to the heart of the motion, and will likely also be something for the court to consider at Benavente's sentencing.

Therefore, Dotts said, Benavente wants to have the motion heard after the Roberto trial is completed.

Further, Dotts said, the pre-sentence report is complicated and awards an excessive num-

ber of points against his client. He said he needs more time to review the pre-sentence report with his client.

Benavente and his then-court-appointed counsel Mark Hanson signed a plea deal with the U.S. government. It was not clear why Dotts replaced Hanson since the motion to declare Benavente in breach of plea deal is sealed.

Benavente pleaded guilty in

February to a count of sexual exploitation of a child. It was alleged that he enticed two underage girls to have sex with him on June 23, 2013, and on July 10, 2013. A Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent alleged that Benavente took videos of himself having sex with two 15-year-old girls.

Benavente is still under custody.

The indictment charged the 43-year-old Benavente with two

counts of sexual exploitation of a child and two counts of attempted sexual exploitation of a child.

Annette N. Basa, who is facing a separate indictment, allegedly offered the girls to the firefighter in exchange for methamphetamine or "ice" and an unspecified amount of money.

The investigation on Benavente led to the filing of charges against Roberto as the latter also allegedly had sex with the same girl. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Kia'aina, fed officials meet with FAS citizens in Honolulu

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina met Saturday with key representatives of the Micronesian, Marshallese and Palauan communities, joined by their ambassadors and consuls general, to get a better understanding of their experiences and to discuss unique challenges they may be facing while living in the United States.

Under federal law, citizens of

these three Pacific Island nations may travel freely to the United States for work and school without regard for visas, and since the implementation of the Compacts of Free Association beginning in the 1980s, an estimated 15,000 freely associated states migrants now live in Hawaii.

"I am here with our federal partners to meet the FAS community, to gain a better appreciation for the FAS experience

here in Hawaii and to see where existing federal programs and policies may be leveraged to help FAS communities navigate their way more successfully as members of the Hawaiian community," said Kia'aina. "Today, we had some thoughtful discussions about obstacles and challenges while also recognizing that in the current environment of shrinking federal dollars, we must be resourceful and creative

to make a difference.

It is equally important that the Office of Insular Affairs also works closely with Hawaii's federal and state officials, as well as officials from the freely associated states, to identify collaborative efforts that could help our FAS communities."

Given the importance of Compact Impact issues in affected jurisdictions, it is the desire of the



Kia'aina

Assistant Secretary to replicate such outreach efforts during future visits to Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Kia'aina was joined by key federal officials from the Departments of Justice, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development and Homeland Security who are familiar

with the FAS communities.

While in Honolulu, the Assistant Secretary intends to meet with key state government officials who handle homelessness, education, health, and fisheries issues as related to Compact migrants. She will also be attending bilateral meetings with the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia as part of the financial provisions of the Compact agreements with these nations. **(OIA)**

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
eTeachers have been training at the BOE conference room to be exemplar online eTeachers and Instructional Technology cohort instructors for the upcoming school year 2014-2015.

Teachers take part in summer Distance Education Program

This summer, particularly August, has been a busy month for the Public School System's Distance Education Program.

"All summer we've been gearing up on superdrive for the upcoming Sept. 2 start [of classes]," said PSS instructional technologist Jeaniffer Cubangbang.

Thursday was the last week that eTeachers have been training at the BOE conference room to be exemplar online eTeachers and Instructional Technology cohort instructors for the upcoming school year 2014-2015.

Along with Cubangbang, eTeachers Karen Echon and Anita Sablan have been instrumental in building capacity within PSS and in sharing their successes in developing and teaching online courses with current and interested eTeachers and Instructional Technology cohort instructors.

The PSS Distance Education program has been recognized by Blackboard in its latest July conference in Las Vegas for its exemplary role in technology and distance learning. The 2-year-old program started from scratch upon Cubangbang's hiring in late 2011 and was approved by the CNMI Board of Education to start in January 2012.

All-star DE student trainers are Cubangbang's latest initiative to involve students into a student-centered learning and digital learning approach.

For the past three weeks, 18 students from three islands of the CNMI from six private and public schools have been training with Cubangbang and her eTeacher exemplar team and working through the summer online to develop a Student Success 101 course for students wanting to take online courses this upcoming semester or in the future.

These All-star DE student trainers will receive digital literacy credit, cooperative education work training, and fulfill their school's required com-

munity service hours. It is also their goal to get parent-involvement into student's success and achievement to increase.

"We'll be leading the country someday, and more important to take our future into account," said Neri Jingco, lead student trainer of the CNMI All-star DE student trainers and Blackboard Project Tomorrow participant panelist.

Last Aug. 15, the Summer Online Courses ended with 481 enrolled online students earning credit toward promotion and graduation requirements from among the 10 different online courses in core contents and electives. Its latest perception data collection reflects that there are more and more students who are self-directing their education by taking online courses to graduate early (43 percent), graduate on time (24 percent), and enrich themselves (34 percent).

This upcoming school year, Cubangbang plans to recruit at least 45 eTeachers for 1,500 students from an offering of 49 various online courses that are aligned to iNACOL national online quality standards, PSS and ISTE technology standards, and Blackboard's exemplary course rubrics, in addition to PSS-adopted state standards, Common Core State Standards for ELA & Math and NGSS for Science.

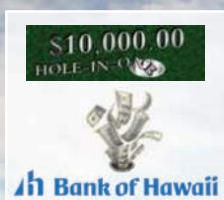
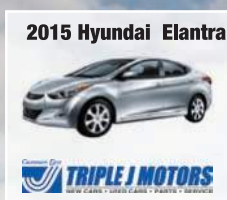
Students are encouraged to meet with their respective school counselor or the PSS summer counselor Janice Muna at the MHS counseling office before Sept. 2 to get academic evaluations done so they can register at www.goo.gl/4wS51n for the upcoming online fall semester. Students, private and public school, grades 6-12 are encouraged to go online to www.cnmpss.org for more information about the Distance Education program and view the 49 course offerings.

Fall 2014 online course registration & placement (www.goo.gl/4wS51n). Seats are limited. Register today! (PR)

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Former MCS principal: 'I am back home'

By **THOMAS MANGLONA II**
CORRESPONDENT

Former Mount Carmel School principal Bernadita Benavente Helstrom considers the school her home, years after first setting foot on school grounds. "I am back home," she exclaimed while entering the campus on the first day of school. Although Helstrom, known as Sister Bernie in the early days of the school, will only be handling the school's elementary students until September, she said she is "cherishing every second in the classroom."

"I am thrilled to return and offer my service because the students are always priority," she said. "I am glad to come back to help and offer my service for the students here. It is like coming back home again. I really enjoy helping the children get excited about learning."

Helstrom, the school's first indigenous principal, launched her teaching career at MCS in 1961 as a third grade teacher until 1965. In 1967 she traveled to Kansas City, where she earned her bachelor of science degree in Education with a minor in English.

After completing her studies in Kansas, Helstrom migrated to Palau to continue her career in education.

Helstrom also taught in Ne-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Former Mount Carmel principal Bernadita Benavente Helstrom.

vada public schools and Catholic schools as a certified teacher, having recently retired from public school education.

It was in 1972 when she returned to the CNMI and MCS and assumed the position of vice principal and was later promoted to the position of principal in 1974—a position she held for four years.

She always had a passion for serving others not only on campus but in the community as

well. Helstrom was instrumental in the opening of the Catholic Social Service on Saipan, commonly referred to as Karidat.

During her time as principal, Helstrom, with the assistance of Jess Sonoda, created the *Mount Carmel School Hymn*, a song consistently sung at the school's weekly assemblies.

Additionally, Helstrom coordinated school beautification projects with students and even helped open the very first library.

According to Helstrom, the building structure of the school has drastically changed but the school's mission of deepening faith and educating the whole person to see with Christ's eyes remains untarnished.

She believes that getting a Catholic education today is imperative.

"The difference between MCS then and now is that we had 700 students at that time. It was due to the fact that we were the first Catholic school at the time," she said. "The academic level here has increased along with the diversity of the faculty and staff. With an enrollment boost this school year, it is safe to say that MCS is doing the right things."

Current school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero said it is an honor to have Helstrom on campus.

"For her to serve in this humble role is humbling in and of

itself. We are all actually hoping and praying that she stays the

whole year. She is a part of the legacy of this school," he said.

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- 2.99% Intro APR for 8 billing cycles on balance transfers made within 30 days of account opening (variable APR applies thereafter)
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3 The BazingaSM Protection Package is provided by StrategyCorps, LLC and its affiliates and contractors, and is not provided or endorsed by First Hawaiian Bank. The package is subject to terms and conditions that are available on Bazinga.com. Certain benefits require you to register at Bazinga.com. If, within 90 days after you open your Secure Checking account, you notify us that you no longer want the package, you may close or convert your Secure Checking account and we will refund the applicable fees.

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6 Subject to credit approval. Apply for the United MileagePlus® credit card by 8/31/14 and, if you're approved, receive 5,000 bonus miles at account opening and 20,000 bonus miles if you spend \$1,500 in purchases within the first 3 months after your account is opened. Also, you'll earn 2 miles per \$1 spent on net qualifying purchases up to \$5,000 until 10/31/14; and 1 mile per \$1 spent on purchases after that. The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for Purchases is a variable rate of 16.24% as of 7/1/14. The intro fixed APR for balance transfers is 2.99% for the first eight billing cycles following the opening of your account for balance transfers made within 30 days of account opening. After that, the variable rate will apply. The fixed Cash Advance APR is 18.00%. The fixed Penalty APR is 18.00% and may be applied if you make a late payment. The Minimum Interest Charge will be no less than \$1.00. The Foreign Transaction Fee is 2.5% of the U.S. dollar amount of any Purchase or Cash Advance made in a foreign currency. The ATM Cash Advance Fee is 3% of the transaction amount (\$3 min/\$50 max) and the Over-the-Counter Cash Advance and Convenience Check Fees are 3% of the transaction amount (\$5 min/\$50 max). The Balance Transfer Fee is 3% of the transaction amount (\$5 min). \$0 introductory annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is \$60. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply. See the United MileagePlus® Credit Card Agreement for more information.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP14-GOV-127

Program Management CNMI Water Task Force

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Jude U. Hofschneider, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals for Program Management for the Water Task Force on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan, on or after July 28, 2014.

Questions regarding this Request for Proposal must be submitted in writing to **CNMI Water Task Force**, Special Advisor by facsimile to **(670) 664-2279** no later than August 8, 2014.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from DOI/OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with NMIAC Section 70-30.3-210 (CNMI Procurement Regulations). Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Program Management" RFP14-GOV-127**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Sealed proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base Drive, Saipan no later than 2:00 p.m., (CNMI local time) August 27, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ELOY S. INOS
Governor

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Brutish beheading makes it clear: Islamic State must be stopped

Americans awoke Wednesday to a gruesome video, showing an Islamic State executioner beheading James Foley, an American. A grim President Barack Obama interrupted his vacation to condemn this act of savagery, aptly calling the Islamic State “a cancer” that must be eradicated.

Foley, 40, a journalist, disappeared in late 2012 while covering Syria's civil war. He was killed for one reason: He was an American.

Foley was targeted by Islamic State terrorists seeking to carve a caliphate from Iraq and Syria. These terrorists have declared as enemies of their budding state not just Americans but all those of any religion or nationality who don't toe the Islamic State's nihilistic line. Except that in truth the Islamic State “speaks for no religion,” Obama said. “No just God would stand for what they did yesterday, and for what they do every single day. ... They have murdered Muslims. ... they target Christians.”

Foley's death was brutish but, sadly, not an exception. During their rampage of terror across Syria and now Iraq, Islamic State fighters have slaughtered thousands of innocent people. The militants have posted videos of crucifixions and public executions.

In Syria, Islamic State fighters impaled the severed heads of Syrian soldiers onto poles. Neither the Syrian government nor the rebels seeking to topple President Bashar Assad focused on battling the Islamic State threat, which then spread to Iraq.

There the militants executed hundreds of Yazidi religious sect men in Iraq and took their wives captive. The women confront a bleak choice: Convert to Islam and “marry” a jihadist...or face imprisonment, if not death. Iraq's leaders, embroiled in political brinkmanship, were slow to comprehend the Islamic State's rapid advance. The terrorists easily defeated Iraqi army units, commandeered their military hardware and seized troughs of cash.

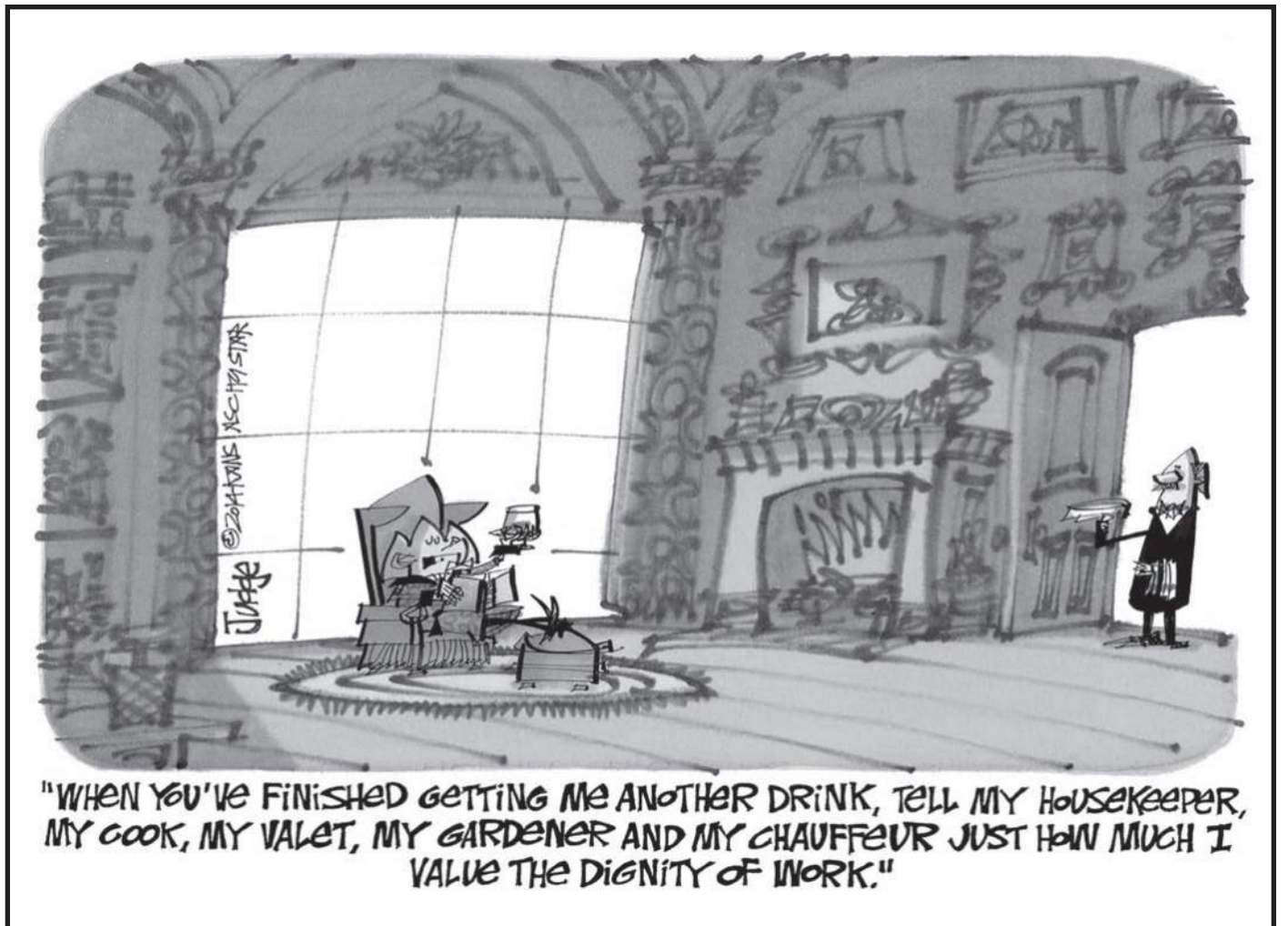
All of that has allowed Islamic State fighters freedom to roam...and kill. This group isn't a plot-and-patiently-wait-for-an-opening al-Qaida wannabe, shuffling furtively in the deserts, planning terrorist attacks against soft targets. This is a battle-ready army commanded by the little-known Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who seeks to create an Islamic throwback state based on terror and blood.

The shameful murder of Foley adds to the growing understanding of the Islamic State as a threat to the U.S. and other Western countries, but also to the West's friends and foes in the Mideast ... and beyond. The Islamic State enemies list includes the Turks, Kurds, Saudis and Iranians. The Islamic State threat also has helped propel Iraq's famously feuding pols to bounce Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and tentatively unite behind Prime Minister-designate Haider al-Abadi.

The U.S. has shown that Islamic State fighters are vulnerable. American airstrikes helped free thousands of besieged Yazidis on Mount Sinjar. American air power spurred newly energized Iraqi troops and Kurdish peshmerga fighters to reclaim the strategic Mosul Dam from Islamic State fighters.

What's next? There is plenty of additional military and politi-

See BRUTISH on Page 11



Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Xue

My *Lei Feng* (an ordinary male volunteer who died young is China's exemplar in volunteer work) while teaching at the Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Xue was spent on weekends with Shou Wang school for children.

Tian is “sky” that gives us “Aerospace” and *Da Xue* is “big school”, i.e., a university, thus Shenyang Aerospace U. Other than the fact that the school name is lent to the subway stop a block away from the main gate, to delve into the school's character is probably best read from calligraphy emblazoned near the front gate. The phrase is *De Neng Bin Jin Yong Yi Xiang Yuan*.

Individually, they denote for *de* = virtue, *neng* = competence, *bin* = together, *jin* = advance, *yong* = courage, *yi* = resolute, *xiang* = soar, and *yuan* = forever. My take is prosaic: “Resolutely advance together with competence and virtue soaring forever.” I suspect that the aesthetic precedes consideration of the authentic; beauty trumps reality in the understanding of the phrase. The calligraphy rather than the spoken *Putunghua* is more helpful to the Chinese reader.

Big words to describe processes around educational aims in the East include the influence attributed to *Kong Fu Tzu*, aka Confucius, and the Mao-think that redefined it. In the West, the renaissance and enlightenment eras gird the great walls of its learning.

Since the Han of 206 BCE transcended the preceding Qin's adherence to strict rules (often referred to as legalism), the thoughts of Kung Fu Tzu dominated the rhetoric of governance, simply because the activity of rationalization followed the path of stability rather than the unsettling of the *pugua* paradigm, a pillar in governance “with Chinese characteristics.”

Two thousand years of dynastic turmoil is often analyzed through a ruling dynasty's adherence to the “mandate of heaven” that legitimized a reigning family's status to rule justly and earned the fealty of the learned and privileged class that in turn guided the affairs of the *hoi polloi*.

The lower class correspondingly stayed faithful but subservient to the upper class that supported ruling families until a change is deemed necessary, not of the system itself but on the ruling family. In all these, the model of relationships from top to bottom, and bottom to top, is that of the “family”, heavily virtue-laden as a clan.

The merit system in China judged one's familiarity with calligraphic representations of Confucian thoughts and history; the civil service exam that choose government roles had for a long time been the gauge of one's acquaintance with the corpus of Confucian thoughts until Mao came along and noticed that academia held the gates to the Communist Party and proceeded to chasten the halls of academy through exposure to agrarian posting and learning. Self-taught, the Cultural Revolution spawned the infor-

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



mal *Dong Nong Bing Da Xue* (Worker-Farmer-Soldier University) that upended the stability, equanimity, and tranquility of many urban dwellers and the *illuminati*.

The Renaissance in Europe 1400 CE was a return to classical forms in literature and art, harking back to Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, influencing the secular thought patterns of the West, and adhered to by Judeo-Christian-Muslim theologies. It hankered back to Greco-Roman civilization. The constant was a transcendent Will of Deity emanating from the mysterious YHWH of Jerusalem, Olympus' Zeus and the Forum's Deus. Thrones and miter were determined by articulated coherence of theologies invoking sacred writ.

The enlightenment of the 1700 CE came as shock to the system as evolution suggested that discernable cosmic intelligence referred to as deity is but personified human rationality that one aligned to or stand up against in proud but resolute defiance. Chaos was the order of creation, manifested notably in the changes brought about by the American and French revolutions.

China's 1912 revolution challenged Confucian order, awakened national sentiments against colonizing Europe and Imperial Japan, but retained the stranglehold of its decrepit civil service. The revolution in Russia erupted in 1917 that birthed a revolutionary who thought of contradictions; Mao-think got quoted in red books later. In 1949, change took the front seat while Confucian stability sat at the back. Deng Xiaoping found a way of keeping stability in the yin-yang of chaos and order, and in pushing industrialization, introduced “nuclear” family as a live option and the individual as democracy's necessary component.

Continuity is big in Chinese thought; chastened Confucius is back. Much of China's educational thrust remains on getting “certificated” in society though no longer on the mandate of heaven as it is on the skill to assemble gadgets in the factory line.

When “certificated” U grads prefer to hawk shoes on the sidewalk's night market rather than wear office attire, it is time to revisit formal pedagogy. I have seven years to inject my contribution from inside the ramparts of its great wall.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Trouble ahead for NMI

As the fiscal crisis takes new heights and temporary scaffolds removed, we'd all be back to square one: broke! Well, some not so wise accountant advised, "Only on paper!" I was like, "What about papers in the bank, do they reflect a robust amount in revenues?" No answer!

When one is paper broke, would scouring the edges of the yellowish document show figures that the NMI has tons of locally generated revenue? I mean you could kite it but isn't this illegal? Let's do a quick review:

Total revenue for fiscal year 2015 is \$135 million. Less 15 percent for PSS and 80 percent for government payroll and there's a balance of \$7 million. For this fiscal year, the settlement fund needs \$25 million excluding the 25-percent cut last October. It's part of the settlement agreement!

But if the 25 percent is restored, it means the Fund needs some \$56 million, give or take. CHC, CUC and other Cs also need operating budgets. How do we divvy \$7 million? Definitely not wearing bifurcated lenses!

Admonishment

Magoo admonished, "You see, bruddah, sometime it's good to keep your opinion to yourself." Told him I wasn't looking for loot from seasoned and corrupt politicians. Nor am I ready to sell and trash the tradition of these isles for 30 silvers!

"But you see bruddah da kine boys in the GOP have 'solutions-driven' style of leadership that pays the 25-percent pension pay cut and some Ulithi [utility] bills", he pointed out.

Lia came roaring in, "Your GOP boys cut pension pay illegally and the payment made is to pay back retirees for money denied them unconstitutionally. So it isn't a 'solution driven' decision. The GOP created the mess in the first place." Oooops! A pointed answer but true! Eh, da kine reply took out da kine wind from Magoo's assertion.

"As for your Ulithi payment, how long would this generosity last?" asked Lia. "It looks a one-shot deal as Ulithi bills keep in-

creasing and power delivery highly suspect today, right?" Magoo didn't like the hard crusty queries and answers crawling out of Lia's pockets. He looked around like he's lost his key bunch just to avoid the discussion.

Lia unleashed it all: "It looks clever or smart but far from a wise decision. People know the score on this issue and treating them like starved stray dogs flushes out any sense of respect for those at the GOP helm, bruddah." Hmmm! Am I in the wrong crowd?

Healthy dosage of the classics

Enjoyable listening to old songs that evokes varied reactions depending upon what nostalgia brings with it. You could get romantic instantly, melancholy, rejuvenation, river of tears, thought of a long lost friend or loved ones, or days of yore, among others.

An established musician myself of nearly 30 years, I prefer listening to what's known as the "classics" for their beautiful melodies and meaningful lyrics. The songs include *Over the Rainbow*, *Stardust*, *I'm in the Mood for Love*, *Hawaiian Wedding Song*, *Stars Fell in Alabama*, *September Song*, *Moon of Manicure*, *Danny Boy*, *Here's That Rainy Day*, among hundreds of them. What's a classic? Music you could hear played in over 1,000 radio stations the world over every hour.

Over the years, though, I've played the classics on guitar because of their melodic tunes and level of difficulty. You simply must know how to play melodic chords including embellishment with comping. Going through the process teaches you razor sharp use of your chords like flats, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, eleventh and thirteenth or augmented pressed with precision.

I've dived into jazz (old standards and smooth jazz) having developed an ear for it. It's the more complicated level you'd never appreciate unless you're into it. Interesting, though, that two of my granddaughters could belt out jazz songs like second nature. At first I thought it was just something out of their memory. Nah! They said, "Grandpa, give me a C-6 C-Major-7" as they sang "I've got you under my skin", among others. Wow! And I thought it's limited to

those seeking an academic degree as well as those that want a technical or vocational career. Your problem is that you have never asked a single student what they are curious about, one on one. You stand at a podium and talk at, or, down to them as if they were little children. That is your tradition I know but it is 2014, not 1814 and these young adults are smarter than you and most of your teachers. They lack, in addition to curiosity, creativity, drive or a passion for learning. They are dried up and burned out after 12 years of "sit down," "be quiet," "listen, don't talk back" and "obey." They are brain dead and uninspired about anything except "thank God school is over."

Your only job is to get these kids ready to enter the real world and you aren't doing it. If you would, or could, shed your arrogance, for one whole day, and walk around the parks, library, stores, basketball courts and any other place where you see a 7th to 11th grade student, engage them one on one, without introducing yourself, and just ask this simple question, "I was wondering, what are you curious about, passionate about?" Almost every single one will tell you the same thing: "Nothing."

Oh. I went to your office four times and you were never in. As for every other utterance in your letter, I mentioned in 36 of my letters that what I say against the Chamorros only concerns the 50, but I have also mentioned in other letters that if the shoe fits, wear it, and, if the shoe doesn't fit, its OK because it must not be yours.

As to my assessment of women, I stand by my statements. Most of you are subservient and better toe the line outside the family and it really is time you stood up for yourselves.

Finally, your statement, "Technology use in classroom instruction has progressively improved in the Public School System. It is about

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



this old timer. It's in my grandchildren too!

Music is a nice relief valve of sort when hit with boredom. They've eased and calmed my mind as I regroup to think things through in troubled corners. It's healthy, though, clinging to music throughout the course of the day. Other than prayers, it becomes that soulful outlet that eases your day as dusk engulfs the horizon out west.

Around the holidays I'd move in and out of traditional and religious melodies. We also have our versions sung in churches all over the islands. You hear the choir belting out the same songs as they do the veneration of the Baby Jesus throughout the villages. Heard the beautiful renditions a long, long time ago in the old village. Humbling!

Having traveled north and south of the equator, I've also heard traditional songs from Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia. In all their expressions, it's about cultural tradition and the essence of passing it on to the next generation. Each group of islanders sings with pride representing their island countries in Pacific festival events. My only trouble was the NMI and Guam singing the same theme: Hafa Adai. A delegate sitting next to me asked, "John, half-a-what?" I nearly said, "Half-a-brain!"

Interesting the national songs of most of these island nations had clear link with their colonial conquerors. Ours is the combination of two German songs. Still love the classics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Being old, even with a degree, is not enough to be respected

In the *Variety* of Aug. 22, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan wrote: "I never sought to answer your assertions as they were not with recommended solutions. They also came from an individual of questionable intent, character or has limited understanding of the things and issues you claim to know. I have extended professional courtesy by inviting you to my office to talk and discuss issues and concerns you have about our public school children, teachers and staff, and the Public School System in general. Instead you ridiculed and insulted us."

Well now. I wrote 11 letters with specific recommendations, four of them baxsed entirely on my talking to over 600 of your 7th through 11th graders. In every single recommendation that was made, I asked your students if they thought these would make learning better, for

innovation, and our public school children, public schools and this community have already embraced the 21st century." Do a survey of your students and you will find that 20 percent or more can't even find YouTube, 99 percent have never uploaded anything to it unless they were in one of Galvin Deleon Guerrero's classes, and 100 percent of your kindergarten to G3 still use flash cards instead of using educational apps on touch screen tablets that let each student progress at their own pace.

While I'm at it, I have two other questions. Why is the Board of Education stuffed with non-professional educators and can you explain how a Chamorro student always seems to get selected for student representative, even though it's usually an Asian-American whose picture ends up in the paper as the top student every year? What kind of message are you sending to "all your students"? Could it be, if you work real hard you can succeed, unless you are Chamorro then all you have to do is be Chamorro because the government will give you a job, even if you are not qualified?

Suck it up, Rita, a degree doesn't make you intelligent, just smart, and good at memorizing, something today's kids don't need to know how to do. All they need to know is how to get on the Internet, then they can find out everything, not just what you adults think they should know. You have been a poser for too long now. It's time you get out and let someone in there with 21st century ideas, which are available for free on YouTube. Galvin, where are you? Speak up, man, you know what needs to be done.

Gary DuBrall

Ala Moana Beach, Hawaii

BRUTISH

From Page 10

cal firepower in the region—from Arab states, Iran and Syria—to pummel the Islamic State.

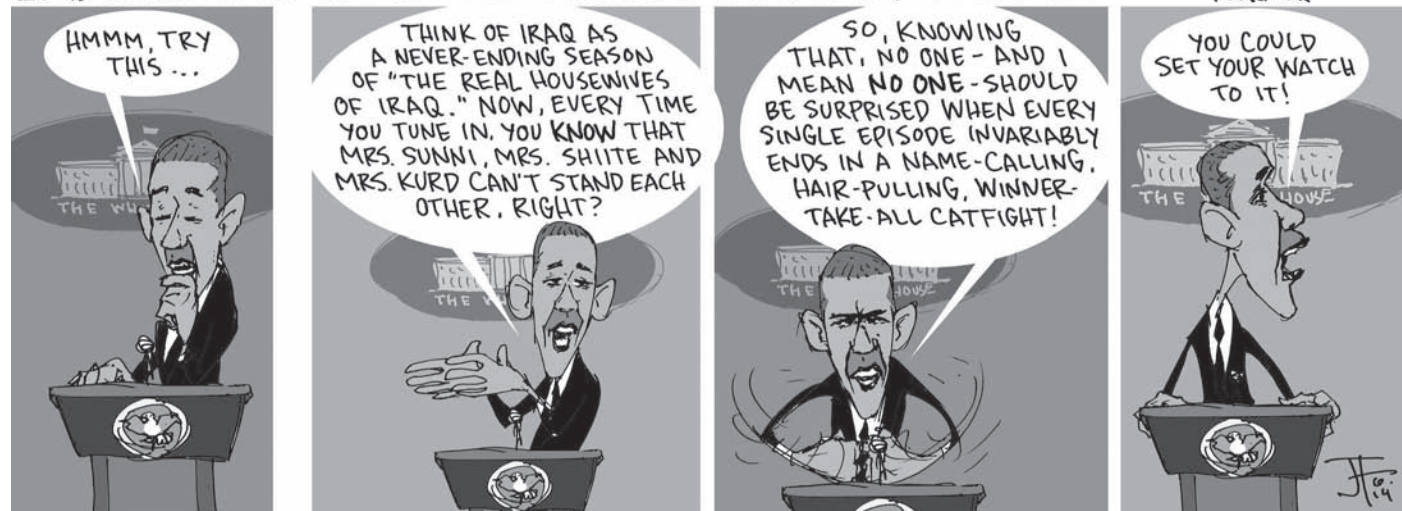
But that hasn't humbled the militants. In the Foley video, a black-clad, masked executioner also threatens to kill Steven Sotloff, another American journalist who disappeared while covering Syria's civil war. "The life of this American citizen, Obama, depends on your next decision," the executioner says with what sounds like a British accent.

Obama's next decision ought to be obvious: More American airstrikes to demolish the Islamic State's weaponry and its ability to fight. Send more and better weapons to the Kurds. Rely on them and Iraqi forces to get the job done on the ground.

We'll soon see if momentum has shifted against the Islamic State temporarily or for good. We hope that the video of Foley's cold-blooded killing—and the world's reaction to it—is a turning point, the beginning of the Islamic State's end.

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EXPLAINING IRAQ TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼78
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼77

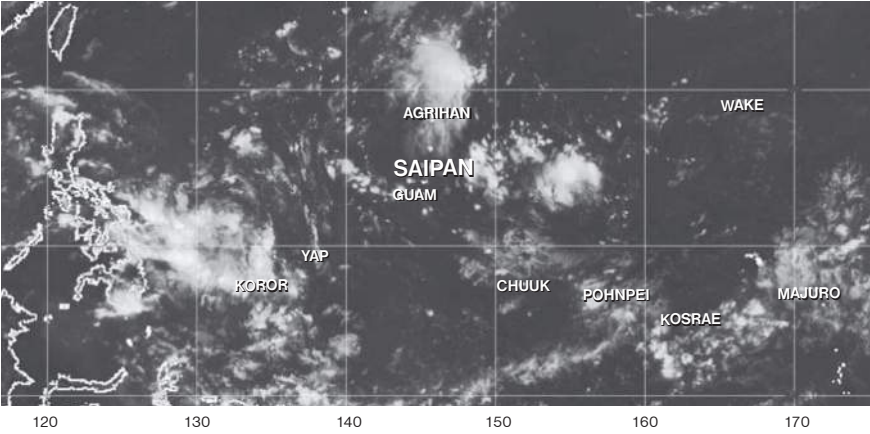
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲57 ▼43
Beijing	Sunny	▲87 ▼64
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Honolulu	Showers	▲86 ▼75
London	Showers	▲62 ▼57
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲59 ▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼79
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼63
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼74
Paris	Cloudy	▲68 ▼59
Pusan	Rain	▲78 ▼72
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼65
Salem	Sunny	▲88 ▼56
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼58
Seoul	Rain	▲76 ▼68
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼74
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼64

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:54 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
9:15 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough stretches from 15N130E to a circulation located to the North of Palau near 12N132E and continues to a second circulation southeast of Yap near 6N141E to end at 5N147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located just to the north of Palau between 8N and 12N from 130E 135E and south of Yap between 1N and 6N from 135E to 141E. A surface trough extends from 5N157E to 5N168E to 8N172E and continues to 8N180. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms covered much of the Marshall Islands between 5N and 8N from 169E to 179E and over Pohnpei between 4N and 7N from 156E to 160E. Another surface trough stretches from 11N152E to 16N153E and is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Pohnpei between 13N and 16N from 154E to 157E. Wind flow convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just northeast of the Marianas between 20N and 23N from 145E to 148E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:34 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:31 AM	6:12 PM
Tuesday	6:18 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	7:05 AM	7:28 PM
Thursday	7:52 AM	8:07 PM
Friday	8:40 AM	8:47 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU7076	4:15am	6:50am	2, 6	MU7075	9:00pm	3:15am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	7:25pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:45pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
D2 8009	12:50pm	4:05pm	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

2014 summer ukulele class concludes at JKPL



Joeten Kiyu Public Library's Summer Ukulele Class, which began on July 2, concluded last Wednesday, Aug. 20. A total of 20 students enrolled in the eight-hour Beginner Ukulele Class, which was held every Wednesday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Students learned parts of the ukulele, basic ukulele keys, and proper way of strumming, etc. They also learned keys to play songs from classic to reggae to local music such as *Happy Birthday*, *Pearly Shells*, *I'm Yours*, *Surfin' USA*, and *Hafa Adai*, to name a few. Students enrolled in the Intermediate Class learned how to play much more complex keys to songs such as *Kiss the Girl* and *Sweet Child of Mine*, plus more.

Ukulele classes are held at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in partnership with ukulele instructor Larry Lee. The next ukulele session will be in September. If you are interested on enrolling on our next cycle, call Celina or Erlinda at 235-7315 / 7316 / 7322 during regular library hours. (JKPL)

Students of the 2014 Summer Beginner Ukulele Class pose with instructor Larry Lee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Navy training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Aug. 26 and 27 from noon to 11pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10'N/144° 30'E, 13° 10'N/144° 42'E, 12° 50'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/143° 00'E, 11° 45'N/143° 00'E, 12° 50'N/144° 30'E. (PR)



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Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Yellen signals uncertainty about a rate increase

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming (AP)—If anyone thought Janet Yellen might clarify her view of the U.S. job market in her speech here Friday, the Federal Reserve chair had a message: The picture is still hazy. Though the unemployment rate has steadily dropped, Yellen suggested that other gauges of the job market have become harder to assess and may reflect persistent weakness. These include many people jobless for more than six months, millions working part time who want full-time jobs and weak pay growth. Yellen offered no clarity on the timing of the first interest rate increase, which most econo-

mists still expect by mid-2015. Investors had been anticipating any firmer sign from Yellen about whether an improving economy might prompt the Fed to act sooner than expected to start raising rates. She instead offered further uncertainty. Damage inflicted by the Great Recession had complicated the Fed's ability to assess the U.S. job market and made it harder to determine when to adjust rates, Yellen said. "Uncertainty is the key word," said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Economics. "Yellen is not about to leap from the fence at the next (Fed) meeting."

Gov't warns US retailers about hacking software

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than 1,000 U.S. retailers could be infected with malicious

software lurking in their cash register computers, allowing hackers to steal customer financial data, the Homeland Security Department said Friday. The government urged businesses of all sizes to scan their point-of-sale systems for software known as "Backoff," discovered last October. It previously explained in detail how the software operates and how retailers could find and remove it. Earlier this month, United Parcel Service said it found infected computers in 51 stores. UPS said it was not aware of any fraud that resulted from the infection but said hackers may have taken customers' names, addresses, email addresses and payment card information.

2 Europe navigation

satellites in the wrong orbits

PARIS (AP)—European space officials say they're investigating whether the inaccurate deployment of two satellites will complicate their efforts to develop a new Galileo satellite navigation system that would rival America's GPS network. The European Space Agency and launch company Arianespace say the satellites ended up in off-target orbits after being launched Friday from Kourou, French Guiana, aboard a Soyuz rocket. Saturday's agency statement did not explain whether their orbital paths could be corrected. Arianespace said the satellites settled into a lower, elliptical orbit instead of the circular one intended, and initial analyses suggested the mishap occurred

during the flight phase and involved the Fregat upper stage of Soyuz.

Airlines on alert as eruption begins in Iceland

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)—Iceland's Bardarbunga volcano burst forth with a small eruption Saturday under the ice of Europe's largest glacier, scientists said, prompting the country to close airspace over the area. Thousands of small earthquakes have rattled the volcano, located deep beneath the Vatnajokull glacier, in the last week. Icelandic Meteorological Office vulcanologist Melissa Pfeffer said Saturday that seismic data indicated that an eruption had begun, with magma from the volcano melting ice within the glacier's Dyngjajokull icecap,

The remote area, 200 miles (320 kilometers) east of the capital of Reykjavik, is uninhabited.

Obama urges renewal of US Export-Import Bank

EDGARTOWN, Mass. (AP)—President Barack Obama is trying to rally support for a taxpayer-subsidized bank that he says creates jobs. In his weekly radio and Internet address, Obama urges business owners to lobby Congress to renew the U.S. Export-Import Bank. The bank provides loans, loan guarantees and credit insurance to foreign buyers of U.S. products. But it will cease functioning unless Congress renews its charter before October. Some Republican lawmakers who supported the bank in past years now want to put it out of business.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0002-76**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-76"*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., Friday, October 3, 2014**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, September 12, 2014**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", and all other required forms and information as required, stipulated and contained in the bid proposal documents and specifications, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

The proposed agreement is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A bidder having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: August 22, 2014



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0011-22**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-22"*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., October 3, 2014**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

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All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", and all other required forms and information as required, stipulated and contained in the bid proposal documents and specifications, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

The proposed agreement is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A bidder having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: August 22, 2014

Nation

Protesters, police march peacefully in Ferguson

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—A diverse group of protesters, many of them children, marched peacefully Saturday as calm prevailed for a fourth straight day in the St. Louis suburb where an unarmed black 18-year-old was shot by a white police officer, setting off more than a week of unrest.

Several community activists walked side-by-side with police officers in uniform as they walked down one of the main streets in Ferguson that had been filled with armored vehicles and officers in riot gear less than a week ago.

“I think some of the frustration is dying down because

more information is coming out,” said Alana Ramey, 25, a St. Louis resident who joined the afternoon march. “I think there is more action going on. People are being more organized and that is helping.”

By late Saturday night, just a few dozen peaceful protesters remained, with an even more sparse police presence along the three-block stretch of West Florissant Avenue that had been the site of the heaviest unrest. Unlike other nights, the street remained open to traffic.

A St. Louis County police spokesman reported one arrest for destruction of property, though an Associated Press reporter observed a second arrest.

The protesters included a dozen students and recent graduates of Harvard University who arrived in Ferguson after a 20-hour drive. The Harvard contingent chatted amicably with Missouri Highway Patrol Capt. Ron Johnson, who commended their passion and encouraged them to remain civilly active.

“When we go back to our communities, there’s a Ferguson near us,” said the Rev. Willie Bodrick II, 26, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, a youth minister and recent graduate of Harvard Divinity School.

The images of well-armed suburban police officers confronting protesters in Ferguson

with tear gas and rubber bullets after the Aug. 9 shooting of Michael Brown by Ferguson Officer Darren Wilson prompted widespread criticism of how local law enforcement agencies have used federal grants to obtain military gear from the Pentagon.

ACROSS THE NATION

No arrests as thousands rally over chokehold death


NEW YORK (AP)—Thousands of people expressing grief, anger and hope for a better future marched peacefully through Staten Island on Saturday to protest the chokehold death of an unarmed black man by a white police officer. Police reported no arrests after the afternoon rally and march that drew well over 2,500 people

to the streets where Eric Garner was taken to the ground on July 17 by a New York Police Department officer using a prohibited martial arts maneuver.

Woman dies after her car strikes parade vehicle

LAPEER TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—A car struck a parade vehicle Saturday in rural Michigan, killing an 80-year-old woman and in-

juring 10 other people, authorities said. Lapeer County Sheriff’s Detective Sgt. Jason Parks told The Associated Press that Jeanette Rumpitz of Metamora Township died at the scene in Lapeer Township after she turned her car left and into the truck that had been converted to resemble a steam locomotive. The parade truck was heading to the Metamora Country Days parade about five miles away.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0003-22**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0003-22”*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., October 3, 2014**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, September 12, 2014**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

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The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: August 22, 2014



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp
Tels: (670) 234-6866/9447/7689/7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

August 25, 2014

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 664-2200 or (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Project Based Voucher to New Construction or Rehabilitated Rental Units	Tasi Homes, LLC is applying for Project Based Voucher	Chalan Kanoa/Susupe	Approximately \$142,560.00 in project based voucher payments

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **September 15, 2014**, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Eloy S. Inos consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/ELOY S. INOS
Governor

“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”

Asia

China defends intercepting US Navy plane

BEIJING (AP)—China's Defense Ministry rejected U.S. accusations that a Chinese fighter jet's intercept of a U.S. Navy surveillance aircraft off the southern Chinese coast was dangerous, and blamed Washington for mounting large-scale and frequent close-in reconnaissance operations.

Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun said the Chinese pilot conducted operations that were "professional and the Chinese jet kept a safe dis-

tance from the U.S. planes."

He called the U.S. accusations "groundless" in a statement issued Saturday night, and said that China was conducting "routine identification and verification" flights.

Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby gave a different account Friday of the Aug. 19 encounter about 135 miles (220 kilometers) east of China's Hainan Island. He said the Chinese jet made several close passes by the Navy

P-8 Poseidon plane, coming within 30 feet (9 meters) of it at one point.

Kirby said that included the Chinese jet doing a "barrel roll" maneuver over the top of the Poseidon—a modified Boeing 737—and passing across the nose of the Navy plane apparently to show that it was armed. Kirby said the Chinese jet's maneuvering posed a risk to the safety of the U.S. air crew and was "inconsistent with customary international law."

He said it was the fourth such incident since March of "close intercepts" involving Chinese jets.

The Chinese statement also said that a Navy P-3 Orion, an anti-submarine and surveillance aircraft, flew alongside the Poseidon. The Pentagon did not mention the second aircraft.

Tensions between the two countries have risen in the South China Sea, as China disputes territorial claims with U.S. ally the Philippines, Vietnam and other neighbors.

In 2001, a Chinese jet collided with a U.S. Navy surveillance aircraft off Hainan Island, killing the Chinese pilot and forcing the Navy plane to make an emergency landing on the island. Washington severed military relations with China after that episode.

In the latest encounter, Yang blamed "the large-scale and highly frequent close-in reconnaissance by the U.S. against China" as "the root cause of accidents endangering the sea and air military security between China and the United States."



This handout photo provided by the Office of the Defense Secretary (OSD), taken Aug. 19, 2014, shows a Chinese fighter jet that the Obama administration said Friday conducted a "dangerous intercept" of a U.S. Navy surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft off the coast of China in international airspace.

Casino hub Macau holds informal poll on democracy

MACAU (AP)—Activists in the Chinese casino capital of Macau kicked off an informal poll on Sunday to gauge support for democratic reforms, inspired by a similar vote in Hong Kong that had a big turnout but was denounced by Beijing as an illegal farce.

The former Portuguese colony, like nearby Hong Kong, is a semiautonomous Chinese region with a leader hand-picked by an elite Beijing-friendly committee.

The 400-member committee is widely expected to elect current leader Fernando Chui to another five-year term on Aug. 31, the same day that referendum organizers plan to release the poll results.

The only place in China where casinos are legal, Macau rakes in annual gambling revenue of \$45 billion, dwarfing the money earned on the Las Vegas Strip. But social tensions have grown as the decade-long casino boom has widened inequality, strained resources and inflated housing prices in the city of about 600,000.

In May, 20,000 people took to the streets to demonstrate against a bill giving lavish

retirement benefits to top officials, forcing the government to scrap it.

The three groups organizing the unofficial referendum, Macau Conscience, Macao Youth Dynamics and Open Macau Society, are taking their lead from Hong Kong democracy activists, who held a similar poll in June that drew nearly 800,000 votes and set the stage for a confrontation with Beijing over democratic reform.

Macau residents can cast votes online from Aug. 24 to 30.

On Sunday they can also go to five polling stations run by volunteers to have their say on two motions: whether they believe Macau's leader should be directly elected in 2019, and whether they have confidence in incumbent Chui.

Hong Kong came back under Beijing's control in 1997, and Macau followed two years later. Both are granted a high degree of control over their own affairs under the principle of "one country, two systems." But unlike Hong Kong, there's no provision in Macau's mini-constitution for eventual full democracy.

India, Pakistan trade gunfire in Kashmir; 4 dead

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—India and Pakistan traded gunfire in the disputed Kashmir region on Saturday, killing two villagers on each side and wounding several others, officials said.

Dharmendra Pareek, a top official with India's paramilitary force, said Indian forces retaliated after Pakistani troops fired guns and mortar rounds on more than a dozen Indian border posts and at least three villages in the Ranbir Singh Pura region.

Pareek said two Indian villagers were killed, including an 8-year-old boy. One Indian border guard and three civilians were wounded, but their injuries were not life-threatening, he said.

Television images showed Indian villagers taking shelter in bunkers.

The region is about 300 kilometers (185 miles) northwest of Srinagar, the main city in the Indian portion of Kashmir.

In Pakistan, a senior army officer said two villagers were killed when the Indian border security force "resorted to unprovoked firing" along the border near the city of Sialkot in the Pakistani portion of Kashmir.

The officer spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Indian Defense Minister Arun Jaitley said cease-fire violations by Pakistan had increased in the region, adding that "both the Indian army and the Border Security Force are fully vigilant and they effectively respond to each violation."

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan, and the rival neighbors claim the disputed Himalayan region in its entirety. They have fought three wars since gaining independence from Britain in 1947, two of them over Kashmir.

The two sides have largely followed a 2003 cease-fire accord, but sporadic violations have occurred.

Tensions have escalated in Kashmir since India earlier in the week called off diplomatic talks with Pakistan because the Pakistani ambassador in New Delhi met with separatist leaders from the disputed region.

India said the meeting undermined efforts to thaw relations between the nuclear-armed neighbors. But India has tolerated such meetings in the past, which suggests the country's new government is taking a hard line against Pakistan.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training insurgent groups fighting for Kashmir's merger with Pakistan or independence from India since 1989. Pakistan denies the charge and says it offers only moral and diplomatic support to them.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thousands gather in Nepal for human flag record

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Tens of thousands of people holding colored boards gathered in Nepal's capital on Saturday in an attempt to break the record for the largest human national flag. The crowd comprised mostly students, but other participants included doctors, government workers, politicians and business executives—all of whom stood for hours in an open area in the heart of Katmandu. One of the event's organizers, Ashish Chaulagai, said more than 38,000 people were estimated to have formed Nepal's flag, shaped as two red triangles with a blue border. Nepal is the only country whose flag is not quadrilateral.

PH to pull out of Golan Heights, Liberia

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government said Saturday that it would bring home its peacekeeping forces from the Golan Heights amid the deteriorating security in the region and withdraw its troops from Liberia because of the Ebola outbreak. The 331 Filipino U.N. troops in the Golan Heights will be sent home after their tour of duty ends in October and the 115 peacekeepers in Liberia will be "repa-

triated as soon as possible," Department of National Defense spokesman Peter Paul Galvez said. "Amidst the volatile security environment in the Middle East and North African region, the Philippines prioritizes the safety and security of its troops, but remains committed to the peacekeeping missions of the United Nations," Galvez said in a statement.

China executes 8 convicted on terrorism charges

BEIJING (AP)—China has executed eight people convicted on terrorism charges in the restive western region of Xinjiang, including three men authorities say were behind a deadly attack in the heart of Beijing in which an SUV plowed through a crowd, state media reported. Last year's attack, in which the driver died alongside his mother and wife as passengers as well as three bystanders, was a sign that the violence the government blames on ethnic Uighur (pronounced WEE'-gurs) separatists was spilling out of the far western region—home to the Muslim, Turkic minority. The others who were put to death were convicted of attacking police stations, bomb making, murder and arson, the government-run Tian-shan Net news portal reported Saturday evening.

Sierra Leone makes hiding Ebola patients illegal

Speaking Friday in parliament, Sierra Leone majority leader Ibrahim Bundu accused developed countries of being slow to respond to the Ebola crisis. He said Sierra Leone had suffered “abandonment and isolation from those we viewed to be our biggest friends.”

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer



LSG SKY CHEFS

Job Vacancy Announcement:

Assistant Operations Manager

- College Graduate or with an equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the preferable knowledge, abilities and skills.
- Experience in work-related airline flight operation is a plus
- Proficient in the use of the English Language (Written and Oral)
- Good communications skills with acceptable telephone manner
- Good organizational skills
- Able to make independent, well-thought-out decisions
- Dependable and Flexible

Requirements: Superior Court and District/Federal Court Police Clearances and Health Certificate. Applications are available at the Main Office located on Airport Road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office.

No Phone Calls Please

Focus

AKSU, China (AP)—Outside a mosque in China's restive west, a government-appointed Muslim cleric was dodging a foreign reporter's question about why young men of the Uighur ethnic minority don't have beards when one such youth interrupted.

"Why don't you just tell them the truth?" he shouted to the cleric under the nervous gaze of several police officers who had been tailing the reporters all day in the oasis city of Aksu. "It's because the government doesn't allow beards."

A plainclothes Uighur policeman swiftly rebuked the young man. "Be careful what you say," he warned.

The tense exchange provided a fleeting glimpse of both the extremes of China's restrictions on minority Uighurs and the resentment that simmers beneath the surface in their homeland. Such a mood pervades Xinjiang's south, a vast, mainly rural region that's become a key battleground in the ruling Communist Party's struggle to contain escalating ethnic violence that has killed at least a few hundred people over the past 18 months.

The personal matter of facial hair has taken on heavy political overtones in the Uighur heartland. Also proscribed are certain types of women's headscarves, veils and "jilbabs," loose, full-length garments worn in public. Such restrictions are not new but their enforcement has intensified this year in the wake of attacks Beijing has blamed on religious extremists.

In a recent sweep of Urumqi, the region's capital, authorities last week said they seized 1,265 hijab-type headscarves, 259 jilbabs and even clothes printed with Islamic star-and-crescent symbols. Officials also "rescued" 82 children from studying the Quran, the government said.

The prohibitions on Islamic attire and beards have attracted widespread criticism, with many experts saying such repression angers ordinary Uighurs and risks radicalizing them.

"It's a self-fulfilling prophecy, it's self-perpetuating. The more they crack down on it, the more people re-Islamize. This is a pattern we see all over the world," said Joanne Smith Finley, an expert on Uighurs at Britain's Newcastle University. "The Chinese state has created a growing terrorist threat where previously there was none. It has stimulated an Islamic renewal where there wouldn't necessarily have been one."

A major thrust of the yearlong crackdown on terrorism has been a campaign against religious extremism, with arrests of hundreds of people for watching videos apparently hailing terrorism or extremist ideology. But authorities also are targeting beards, veils and other symbols



In this photo taken Thursday, July 17, 2014, a Uighur man prepares to get his beard massaged at a barbershop in the city of Aksu in western China's Xinjiang province.

China targets ordinary Uighurs with beards, burkas

By GILLIAN WONG
Associated Press

of religious piety in a campaign that creeps ever farther into Uighurs' daily lives despite official claims that the government respects religious freedom.

"At the moment, we face a very serious, intense and complex situation with fighting terrorism and maintaining stability," a party newspaper, the Xinjiang Daily, said in an edict to "front-line" minority cadres in late July. Officials, it said, must also act to control weddings without singing and dancing and funerals where there are no feasts—referring to Uighur customs the government says Islamic conservatives have barred.

Young Uighur men are discouraged from keeping beards and those who have them are stopped at checkpoints and questioned. So are women who wear Muslim headscarves and veils that obscure their faces. Some public places such as hospitals bar such individuals from entering. Earlier this month, the northern Xinjiang city of Karamay announced that young men with beards and women in burkas or hijabs would not be allowed on public buses.

In the city of Aksu, Ma Yanfeng, the director of the city's foreign propaganda office, said the government was concerned that Uighurs were being unduly influenced by radical Islamic forces from overseas.

"It's because they have been incited by others to do so," Ma said, noting that traditional

dress of Uighur women is multi-colored. "Those clothes that are all black are a sign of influence from foreigners like in Turkey and have to do with extremist thinking."

Unlike in Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan or parts of South Asia, veils and abayas are relatively new to Uighurs in Xinjiang, only growing in popularity in recent decades, scholars say.

Uighur historically have used "ikat" textiles with bold patterns and brilliant colors, an aesthetic they share with Uzbeks, Tajiks and other Central Asian cultures. Contemporary Uighur women, especially those in cit-

ies, dress like other urbanites though they aren't likely to bare a lot of skin.

Uighurs have been adopting veils and beards in a shift toward more pious lives, partly as symbolic resistance to Chinese rule and partly out of a desire for the egalitarianism associated with Islam to mend social inequalities, said Smith Finley, the Newcastle expert who has studied Uighurs since 1991.

The shift is also in reaction to dashed hopes for independence after bloody riots in 1997 and the ensuing crackdown, she said.

Some Uighurs see their current plight as punishment from

God for not being good enough Muslims. They think "if I'm a better Muslim, then the Uighurs as a whole will be better Muslims and our future, our situation, will be better," she said.

Chinese authorities apparently make little distinction between these expressions of piety and the kind of extremism that poses a threat to society.

In May, police in the county of Luntai raided women's dress shops and confiscated jilbabs. A photo on the local government's website showed four male police officers at a shop examining textiles while a woman in a black jilbab, likely a shop assis-

tant or owner, stood in the background watching.

The rubber-stamp legislature in the southern prefecture of Turpan says on its website it is considering a law to impose fines of up to 500 yuan (\$80) for wearing veils and cloaks in public. The legislature says the law would help safeguard social stability, cultural security and gender equality and even protect health—because, the proposal says, burkas deprive skin of sunlight and can cause heatstroke in summer.

Elsewhere, officials have been rounding up dozens of Uighur women to attend indoctrination sessions and to trade their jilbabs and veils for traditional Uighur silk dresses.

"After today's ideological education, I now understand that the jilbab is not our ethnic group's traditional attire, and I recognize that veils and wearing jilbabs is incompatible with Islamic culture and is a backward and bad practice," a woman named Ayiguli Bake was quoted by a local party-run newspaper as saying in a scripted fashion.

But on the streets of Kuqa and Aksu, many women could be seen wearing headscarves that covered their necks, though black cloaks were nowhere in sight and in most instances only elderly men had beards.

Chinese officials probably are targeting outward manifestations of piety because they cannot "fundamentally alter people's inner states," said Gardner Bovingdon, a Xinjiang expert at Indiana University.

"I can't make you stop admiring a more rigorous, scriptural Islam, but I can make you shave off that beard, I can make you take off that scarf," Bovingdon said. "So that's what I'll do."

The authorities' heavy hand has reportedly sparked protests. In the rural town of Alaqagha, 40 kilometers (25 miles) south of Kuqa, police fired into a crowd in May when villagers violently protested the detention of women and girls for wearing headscarves and Islamic robes, according to the U.S. government-funded broadcaster Radio Free Asia.

On a recent evening in Alaqagha, rows of surveillance cameras perched atop street lights watched residents breaking their fasts at a small outdoor market. Pistol-carrying police who were trailing Associated Press journalists kept an eye on the villagers, who included women with headscarves shopping at donkey-drawn fruit carts.

"It's the state's way of saying 'we don't trust you, we see your religion as being something that's inherently of concern to us,'" said Sophie Richardson, China director at Human Rights Watch. "We are going to treat it as fundamentally problematic behavior, not as the basic right that it is."



In this photo taken Wednesday, July 16, 2014, a Uighur woman walks past a mosque in the city of Kuqa in western China's Xinjiang province.

Health & Fitness

US diplomats barred from ice bucket challenge

By **MATTHEW LEE** a
AP DIPLOMATIC WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The charity stunt has lured athletes, celebrities, politicians and rock stars and gone viral on the Internet, but don't look for U.S. diplomats to get in on the fun.

Lawyers at the State Department have banned American ambassadors and other high-profile foreign service officers from participating in the ice-bucket challenge to raise money and awareness for Lou Gehrig's disease, also called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS. In a cable sent this week to all U.S. diplomatic missions, the lawyers say it runs afoul of federal ethics rules barring officials from using public office for private gain "no matter how worthy the cause." The unclassified cable, sent on Tuesday, was obtained by The Associated Press Thursday.

The cable said public health and disease prevention are some of the State Department's highest priorities, noting U.S. funding for global programs to fight HIV and AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, smallpox and po-

lio and recent efforts to combat the Ebola virus. And, it complimented the ALS Association on the success of its ice bucket challenge, which has raised more than \$40 million and attracted a plethora of notable participants, including former President George W. Bush, television hosts Martha Stewart and Matt Lauer and pro golfer Greg Norman.

But it also pointed out that choosing among worthy charities can be a difficult personal decision that is made "even more difficult when high-ranking State Department personnel with high-profile positions are asked to participate in charitable fund-raising, and concerns about preference and favoritism always arise."

"There are firmly established rules preventing the use of public office, such as our ambassadors, for private gain, no matter how worthy a cause," the cable said. "Thus, high-ranking State Department officials are unfortunately unable to participate in the ice bucket challenge. We since wish the ALS Association continued success in its ice bucket campaign, and in its fight against

Lou Gehrig's disease."

By the time the cable was sent at least one high-ranking

diplomat, Ambassador to Israel Daniel Shapiro, had already participated and had challenged

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power to

douse herself with ice water for the cause. But by then, Power and the other ambassadors got the memo.



AP
Staffers douse Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and his wife, Crissy, with cold water on the steps of the state Capitol in Nashville, Tenn., Friday, Aug. 22, 2014.

Study: Combining vaccines boosts polio immunity

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—New research suggests a one-two punch could help battle polio in some of the world's most remote and strife-torn regions: Giving a single vaccine shot to children who've already swallowed drops of an oral polio vaccine greatly boosted their immunity.

The World Health Organization officials said the combination strategy already is starting to be used in mass vaccination campaigns in some hard-hit areas and is being introduced for routine immunizations in developing countries, too.

"It could play a major role in completing the job of polio eradication once and for all," said Dr. Hamid Jafari, WHO's director of polio operations, who led the study published Thursday in the journal *Science*.

Oral polio vaccine has played a critical role in the nearly three-decade effort to eradicate the paralyzing disease, as health workers have gone house-to-house, to refugee camps and to roadside checkpoints delivering the drops. The number of countries where polio regularly circulates dropped from 125 in 1988 to just three as of last year -Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan.

But with travel, the threat is re-emerging in countries previously free of the highly conta-

gious virus. The WHO in May declared an international public health emergency, citing outbreaks in at least 10 countries. Particularly of concern were Syria, Somalia and Iraq, where violence has complicated efforts to contain new cases.

Which vaccine to use in the eradication push has long been controversial. They each have different strengths. The United States and other wealthy countries have switched back to using only injected polio vaccine, which is made of "inactivated" or killed virus, for routine childhood immunizations after eradicating the disease within their borders. That's because the oral vaccine contains weakened live virus that children can shed in their stools, which on very rare occasions can trigger a vaccine-caused case of polio.

In developing countries where polio is still a threat, the oral version is cheaper, easier to use and can slow spread of the virus. But a particular type of immunity, intestinal immunity, wanes so that children in high-exposure areas need repeated doses.

Jafari's team tested whether using both vaccines would protect better than one. The study involved nearly 1,000 children, from babies to 10-year-olds, in northern India in 2011, the last year that country reported a case of polio. The children had previously received oral vaccine.

This time, they were randomly assigned to receive either a dose of injected polio vaccine, another oral dose or no booster. Four weeks later they all received what researchers called a "challenge" dose of oral vaccine to see how their bodies shed the weakened live virus.

The shots acted as a better booster for the children's intestinal immunity than giving them yet more vaccine drops—and those youngsters shed far less virus, key to cutting transmission in an outbreak, Jafari's team reported.

A similar study in 450 children in southern India last year reached the same conclusion, researchers reported in *The Lancet* last month.

And last December, Kenya put the strategy to its first real-world test. Health workers used both injected and oral vaccine as they sought to immunize 126,000 young children living in Somali refugee camps and nearby areas who were at risk from a polio outbreak spilling over the Somalia-Kenya border. They reached most of the children, according to a report by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Similar campaigns are beginning in northeastern Nigeria and should start soon in Pakistan, said Jafari and Dr. Bruce Aylward, WHO's assistant director-general for polio.

Personal Trainer

Some useful stretches

These stretches, one for the upper body and one for the lower, can be done as you are cooling down from almost any kind of workout.

Door stretch for chest muscles

- Stand in narrow doorway with elbows spread
- Step slowly or lean forward gently until chest muscles stretch comfortably
- Hold 15-30 seconds and release; rest and repeat stretch



Wall stretch for quads

Rest hand on wall to maintain balance

Bend knees a little

Spread feet

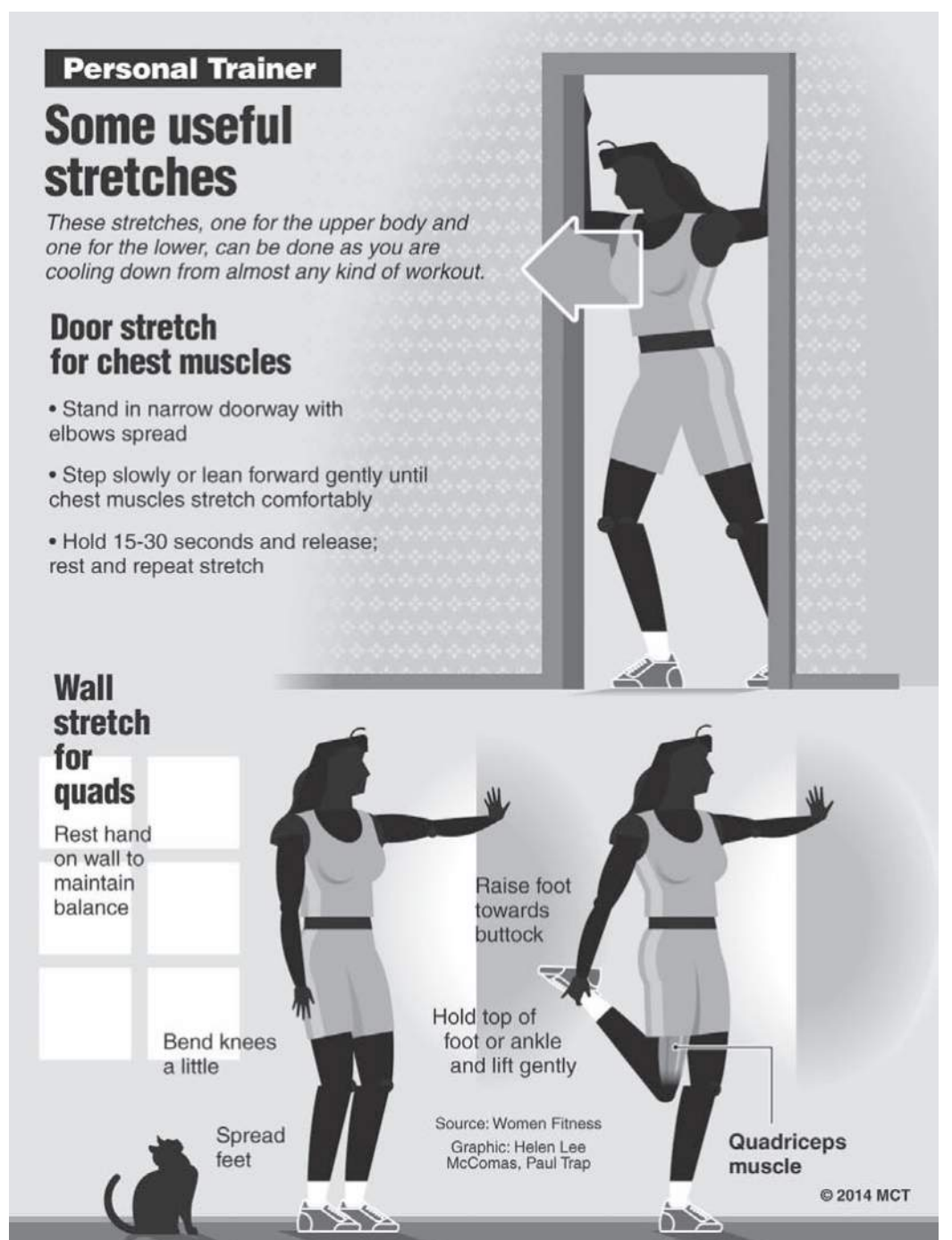
Raise foot towards buttock

Hold top of foot or ankle and lift gently

Quadriceps muscle

Source: Women Fitness
Graphic: Helen Lee
McComas, Paul Trap

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Life & Style

Ice bucket challenge may change nonprofit world

By ALICIA RANCILIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—The ice bucket challenge's phenomenal success is making other charitable organizations rethink how they connect with a younger generation of potential donors.

Since the ALS Association began tracking the campaign's progress on July 29, it has raised more than \$53.3 million from 1.1 million new donors in what is one of the most viral philanthropic social media campaigns in history.

Thousands of people, including celebrities like Taylor Swift and Oprah Winfrey, have posted videos of themselves getting buckets of ice water dumped over their heads and challenging others to do the same—or donate money to The ALS Association, which raises money for Lou Gehrig's disease research and assistance.

The ice bucket challenge has shown it's OK to be silly for a good cause, says Brian Mitendorf, a professor at the Ohio State University Fisher College of Business, who teaches courses in nonprofit finance.

"Normally the model is to find people who are passionate about a cause and then ask for donations or to educate people and then seek out donations. (The ice bucket challenge is) something that's fun that people can do ... people are taking part in it and then taking the info and donating."

The viral nature of the effort surprised even The ALS Association.

"This level of unprecedented giving is (something) I don't think this country has seen before outside of a disaster or emergency," said ALS Association spokesperson Carrie Munk. "We had no idea



This Aug. 20, 2014 file photo shows Tennessee Titans players taking part in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge after NFL football practice in Nashville, Tenn.

it would get to this point."

Who should get credit for making this a viral sensation depends on whom you ask. Some say it began earlier this month when friends of a 29-year-old Boston man with ALS, a neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, did a group challenge.

It's also demonstrated that the average Joe or Jane can make waves.

"One of the big take-aways is the power of individuals who are so tightly connected to a cause can really make a difference," Munk said. "I'm pretty sure that if any company or any nonprofit had all of the public relations dollars in the world to come up with a campaign, we never would've seen this kind of success."

Lucretia Gilbert, executive director of The Pink Agenda, which raises money for breast cancer research and awareness, believes it will encourage other nonprofits to get creative on social media.

"It's a very simple thing and that's kind of the beauty of it. Everyone can do this challenge," she said.

The effort comes at a time when private groups are searching for new ways to raise dollars in the wake of tighter federal government spending on basic medical research, including on diseases like ALS.

The National Institutes of Health is spending about \$30 billion this year, money that is divided in a highly competitive process to scientists around the country, and the world, to pursue

what are deemed the most promising leads to understand various diseases and to find new targets to fight them.

Congress cut government spending last year; in 2012, the NIH's budget was \$30.8 billion. And even before those cuts, the agency's budget hadn't kept pace with inflation for about a decade. As a result, the NIH is funding about one in six grant applications—down from about one in three a decade ago, director Francis Collins said earlier this year.

For Lou Gehrig's disease, the NIH's estimated budget this year is \$40 million, down from \$44 million in 2012.

Employing technology for fundraising campaigns, of course, isn't a new idea: Perhaps one of the most enduring

began in 1966 when the Muscular Dystrophy Association had its first annual Labor Day weekend telethon. Last year, it raised \$59.6 million in contributions. Fundraisers have also embraced donating by text message in recent years.

But some fundraisers contend that one of their greatest challenges is asking the same people for money year after year—a challenge successful social media campaigns could solve.

Mindy Bailey, corporate and community development specialist for JDRF, a foundation that raises money to fight Type 1 diabetes, said volunteers want to come up with a similar idea to fuel donations.

"We have had a lot of people reach out to us and say, 'Hey, we're going to do the ice bucket

challenge,'" Bailey said. "Recently we had a woman say, 'I'm thinking of doing a pie-in-your-face idea.' The wheels have been turning."

However, not everyone is a fan of the public approach of the ice bucket challenge.

(hash)NoIceBucketChallenge is a hashtag on Twitter that's being used for a variety of reasons.

"I just think it seems hokey and far too gimmicky and a hot trend and part of the whole 'me' culture of 'Oh look at me. Pay attention to me,'" said Cameron Mitchell of New York. "The charity part seems like an afterthought."

Some even argue that it's wasteful to dump water, even for a cause, especially in places like California, where there's a drought.

The California Water Board offered a measured response.

"It doesn't violate any of our regulations. People should always use good judgment whenever they use water while we're in a drought. On the other hand, we understand that this is a charitable event," said George N. Kostyko, director of the California State Water Resources Control Board's office of public affairs, in an email.

Annoyed, impressed or otherwise, the ice bucket challenge has people talking—and ALS's Munk asserts that even if they don't donate, the campaign has raised public awareness, a major focus of the organization that last year spent 32 percent of its annual budget on public and professional education and 27 percent on research.

Just a few years ago, she said, only about 50 percent of Americans knew what ALS is.

"We're really looking forward to see how the needle moves," she said.

China shuts down Beijing Independent Film Festival

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities blocked an annual independent film festival from opening Saturday, seizing documents and films from organizers and hauling away two event officials in a sign that Beijing is stepping up its already tight ideological controls.

Li Xianting, a film critic and founder of the Li Xianting Film Fund, the organizer of the Beijing Independent Film Festival, said police searched his office and confiscated materials he had gathered over more than 10 years. Li and the festival's artistic director, Wang Hongwei, were detained by police Saturday night but later released, according to their supporters.

The festival, which began in

2006, has seen severe police obstruction over the past few years, but this year's crackdown is far more serious, Wang said.

"In the past few years, when they forced us to cancel the festival, we just moved it to other places, or delayed the screenings," he said. "But this year, we cannot carry on with the festival. It is completely forbidden."

Over the past week, Li posted memos saying government security personnel were pressuring him to cancel the festival, and that he had come under police surveillance.

"It's very clear that the (President) Xi Jinping regime is determined to control the ideological realm, which has not been emphasized so much for a long time," said Chris

Berry, professor of film studies at King's College London in England.

But Berry said that China is not new to shutting down independent film festivals, and that the ill treatment of the Beijing festival does not mark the end of the country's independent filmmaking, as filmmakers have found more venues in an increasingly diverse environment.

The boom in the mainstream movie industry, the rise of galleries that curate artwork based on moving images, and the Internet all have provided new opportunities, he said.

"Let's not be totally pessimistic," he said.

Police in the Beijing suburb of Songzhuang, where the

event was supposed to open, said Saturday that they were unaware the festival had been canceled. But security was tight at the site, with about two dozen men blocking the area and preventing around 30 film directors and members of the public from entering.

The men, claiming to be villagers, tried to stop anyone from photographing or videotaping the scene, and in a scuffle, broke a video camera an Associated Press journalist was operating and took away another AP journalist's cellphone. The phone was later returned.

Hu Jie, a movie director who traveled from the eastern city of Nanjing to attend the festival, was upset at the cancellation.

"The audience for my films

is already quite small, perhaps because I make documentaries that talk about history," Hu said. "If one of the rare film festivals, like the Beijing Independent Film festival, is shot down, then it will be very difficult for us to survive as filmmakers."

Started as a film forum, the festival over the years has grown to be one of the most important events for China's independent films, but also has attracted the attention of authorities eager to regulate free speech.

In 2012, electricity was cut off shortly after the festival opened, but organizers still managed to show some new movies. Last year, the festival went on, although public screenings were banned.

In the memos that he posted, Li said police put him and

the fund's office under surveillance Aug. 18, when this year's festival's poster and schedule were released online.

He said local authorities initially agreed to a compromise that the festival be moved to a town farther out in neighboring Hebei province, but that the management of the hotel where reservations had been made informed the fund on Friday that police were not allowing it to host the festival.

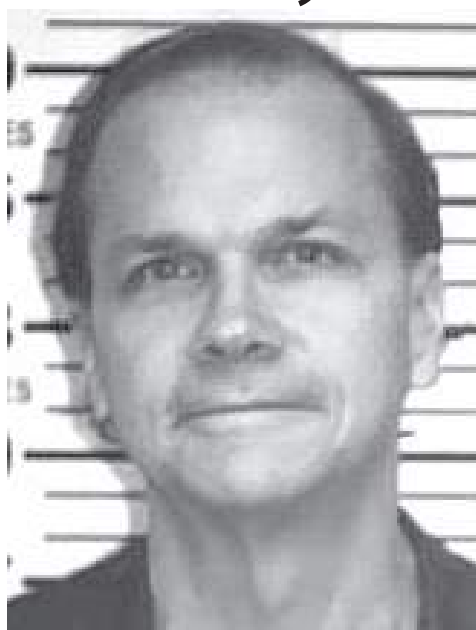
Li said the festival's executive director, Fan Rong, and Wang were taken away by Songzhuang police on Friday afternoon and forced to sign a letter of promise to cancel the festival, before being freed five hours later. He said employees of the film fund were also informed that the electricity to the office would be cut off starting Saturday.

Parole denied yet again for John Lennon's killer

NEW YORK (AP)—John Lennon's killer was denied release from prison in his eighth appearance before a parole board, correction officials said Friday.

The decision on Mark David Chapman by a three-member board came after a hearing Wednesday, the state Department of Corrections said.

Chapman fired five shots on Dec. 8, 1980, outside the Dakota apartment house where Lennon lived on Manhattan's Upper West Side, hitting the ex-Beatle four times in front of his wife, Yoko Ono, and others. He was sentenced in 1981 to 20 years to life in prison after pleading guilty



to second-degree murder.

An attorney for Ono said Friday that she had no immediate comment.

The panel wrote to the 59-year-old Chapman that it concluded that if released, "you would not live and remain at lib-

erty without again violating the law." It added: "This victim had displayed kindness to you earlier in the day, and your actions have devastated a family and those who loved the victim."

At his previous hearing in 2012, Chapman described how Lennon had agreed to autograph an album cover for him earlier on the day of the killing.

"He was very kind to me," he said.

AP
This June 1, 2013 photo provided by the New York State Department of Corrections shows Mark David Chapman at the Wende Correctional Facility in Alden, N.Y. Chapman, who killed John Lennon in 1980, was denied release from prison in his eighth appearance before a parole board, New York corrections officials said Friday, Aug. 22, 2012.

After that, "I did try to tell myself to leave. I've got the album, take it home, show my wife, everything will be fine," he said. "But I was so compelled to commit that murder that nothing would have dragged me away from the building."

At a 2010 hearing, Chapman recalled that he had considered shooting Johnny Carson or

Elizabeth Taylor instead, and said again that he chose Lennon because the ex-Beatle was more accessible, that his century-old apartment building by Central Park "wasn't quite as cloistered."

The transcript of his latest hearing wasn't immediately released. Chapman can try again for parole in two years.

Cirque du Soleil takes Beatles tribute to airports

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Visitors flying into Las Vegas got more than just their luggage when they stopped by baggage claim.

Cast members from Cirque du Soleil danced on the carousels, did handstands on the moving sidewalks and rode a vintage Volkswagen Beetle into the terminal Thursday afternoon at McCarran International Airport.

The unannounced, three-song shows marked the 50th anniversary of the Beatles' flight from San Francisco to Las Vegas. The

band's two-show gig in 1964 was the only time the Fab Four performed in Sin City.

Cirque du Soleil has a Beatles-themed resident show at The Mirage casino called "LOVE."

The cast's re-creation of the Beatles' journey included a pre-flight performance at San Francisco International Airport, and cast members gave prizes to Southwest Airlines passengers who flew with them to Las Vegas.

Iggy Azalea falls off stage during pre-VMA show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Iggy Azalea tumbled off the stage during an MTV Video Music Awards benefit concert, but she appeared unharmed and posted a video of the fall on social media.

The Australian rapper fell Friday night while performing her hit "Fancy" at The Avalon in Los Angeles. Security guards quickly pulled Azalea back onto the stage, and she barely missed a beat as Charli XCX joined her for the chart-topping single.

Afterward, Azalea told the crowd she felt "very blessed"

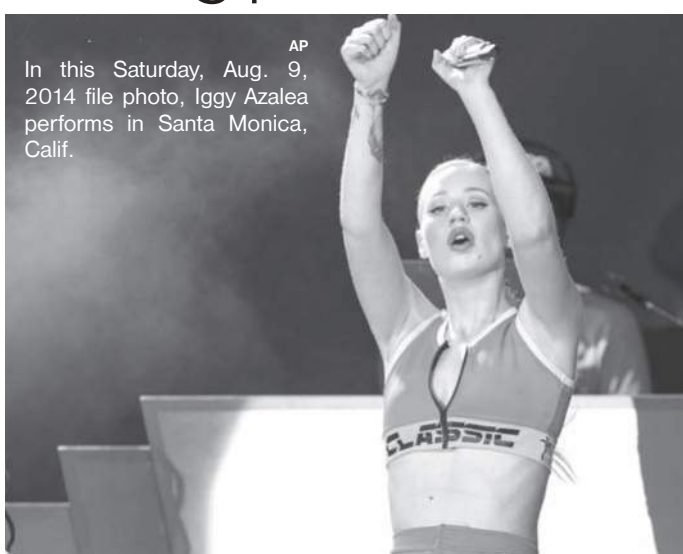
that she did not break her legs. There was no immediate word if she was injured.

Azalea appeared in good spirits, posting a video of the fall on Instagram. She wrote in the caption: "I know I laughed."

Neither Azalea's representatives nor MTV immediately responded to emails seeking comment.

Tori Kelly and Sam Smith also performed at the event benefiting Lifebeat—Music Fights HIV/AIDS.

Azalea is up for seven awards at the VMAs airing live Sunday.



AP
In this Saturday, Aug. 9, 2014 file photo, Iggy Azalea performs in Santa Monica, Calif.

Man dies after being shot backstage at concert

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP)—A 38-year-old man died Saturday after he was shot multiple times backstage during a concert at a popular Silicon Valley venue, authorities said.

The shooting occurred at Shoreline Amphitheatre, where Pittsburgh rapper Wiz Khalifa, Atlanta hip hop artist Jeezy and others had finished performing Friday night. The victim, whose name was not immediately released, died at a hospital.

Police rushed to the outdoor venue after receiving multiple calls that shots had been fired. However, no arrests have been made, and officers were still looking for a male suspect believed to be in his 20s and armed with a handgun.

Investigators turned to social media to ask concertgoers for photos or videos that might provide clues.

Authorities don't yet know how a gun made it into the am-

phitheater, where patrons undergo security screening, Mountain View police spokeswoman Shino Tanaka told KTVU-TV (<http://bit.ly/1BOuxnh>).

Wiz Khalifa was scheduled to continue his Under the Influence of Music Tour at Sleep Train Amphitheater in Chula Vista, California, on Saturday night, but the show was canceled "due to an active investigation" of the shooting at the Shoreline Amphitheatre, con-

cert organizer Live Nation said in a statement.

A post on Wiz Khalifa's Twitter account blamed the cancellation on "a situation out of our control."

The rapper also called shooting "a senseless tragedy."

"Violence is never the answer. My prayers go out to the victim's family," he tweeted.

He has another concert scheduled Sunday in Irvine, California.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Wanted rapper, reality TV star lashes out at NYPD

NEW YORK (AP)—A rapper and reality television star is lashing out at police who say he's wanted for roughing up his ex-girlfriend and stealing her cellphone. Joe Budden directed his ire at the New York Police Department via Twitter on Saturday after it sent out his picture and asked the public for help tracking him down. In one expletive-punctuated tweet, the 33-year-old city native says he's going to sue. In another, he tells the NYPD's account to alert the "Man hunt" that he'll be at an Astoria strip club Saturday night. Police say the "Love & Hip Hop" star snatched the phone and twisted his ex-girlfriend's arm during a dispute in his car early Monday in Manhattan. Budden didn't immediately respond to an email seeking comment. His latest album is "All Love Lost."

NFL, rapper MIA reach settlement

NEW YORK (AP)—An attorney for M.I.A. says his client and the NFL have reached a settlement ending their multimillion dollar dispute over the Sri Lankan rapper's flash of the middle finger during her 2012 Super Bowl halftime performance with Madonna. Attorney Howard E. King said in a statement Friday that the two had reached a confidential settlement, but offered no further details. The Hollywood Reporter reported last year that the NFL took action with the American Arbitration Association for breaching her performance contract and tarnishing the league's reputation, asking for \$1.5 million in damages. A spokesman said the league had no comment. NFL officials have said any money earned from the action would be donated to charity.

Baby's adoption will leave hole in grandmother's heart

DEAR ABBY: My teenaged daughter will be giving birth soon, and she has decided to place her baby for adoption. I have told her that whatever she decides, I will support her decision.

Here is the difficult part: This will still be my biological grandchild. When this beautiful child is lovingly handed over to the adoptive parents, I will be losing a grandchild. I am already in mourning.

Are there other grandparents out there who are going—or have gone—through this, and how are they coping? I already see a therapist, but I would still like to know how others are coping.

UN-GRANDPARENT
IN OHIO

DEAR UN-GRANDPARENT: I wish you had told me more about the kind of adoption your daughter has chosen for her baby. If it is an open adoption in which she will be kept informed about the child's milestones and progress, ask the adoptive couple if they would welcome you as an "extra" grandparent for the child. If I hear from others who have gone through this process, I will let you know, because I'm sure they will write to help you through your heartache.

DEAR ABBY: I am being married to the man of my dreams

next month. "Jon" and I love each other and are excited to celebrate our life as husband and wife together with our families and friends.

I have a 6-year-old daughter from a previous relationship, and after talking to her, she told me she would like to walk me down the aisle instead of being our flower girl. I love the idea, and so does Jon.

I will have to talk to my dad about it, because I know he was looking forward to it although we do NOT have a close relationship. I have lived on my own since I was 17. How do I communicate to him in an appropriate way that my daughter, who has been my family for the past six years, will walk me down the aisle and not him?

CONFUSED BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR CONFUSED: Because you aren't close to your father, this may not come as a shock to him. However, if he was asked to walk you down the aisle, he may be very hurt and it could cause a rift.

Be as diplomatic as possible when you break the news. Start by saying, "I was talking about the wedding with little 'Jennifer,' and she came up with an idea Jon and I think is adorable. Instead of being our flower girl, she wants to walk me down the aisle. We feel it would bring our little family

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



even closer together. I hope you don't mind...."

DEAR ABBY: My husband has a low-paying job and I am trying to see that he gets a better one, but each step I take he regards as pestering him. This has driven us apart from each other. It really hurts me because we are now like strangers living together. What do I do?

SAD WIFE IN ABUJA, NIGERIA

DEAR SAD WIFE: Change tactics. What you consider helpful encouragement may be regarded by your husband as constant nagging about a sore subject. Tell him you love him, didn't mean to pressure him—and if you see some ads seeking men with his skills that offer a higher salary, let him know about them. That's what I would do.

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Kevin Love traded to Cavs, joins LeBron



CLEVELAND (AP)—Olympic champions together, Kevin Love and LeBron James spent the last 30 days waiting to become teammates again.

Cleveland has craved a championship for 50 years.

One drought over. One to go.

On the first day they were able to complete the long-discussed blockbuster trade, the Minnesota Timberwolves sent Love to the Cavaliers, who capped a spectacular summer on Saturday by acquiring the All-Star power forward as another running mate for James to make them instant title contenders.

James didn't waste any time in making Love feel at home.

"Welcome to the Land (at) kevinlove!" the four-time league MVP posted on his Twitter account.

Yes, Cleveland, a city without a major sports championship since 1964, has another new superstar.

The Timberwolves receive a bountiful return for parting with Love, the disgruntled face of their franchise. They acquired No. 1 overall draft choice Andrew Wiggins and former top pick Anthony Bennett from the Cavs and veteran forward Thaddeus Young from the Philadelphia 76ers in the three-team deal.

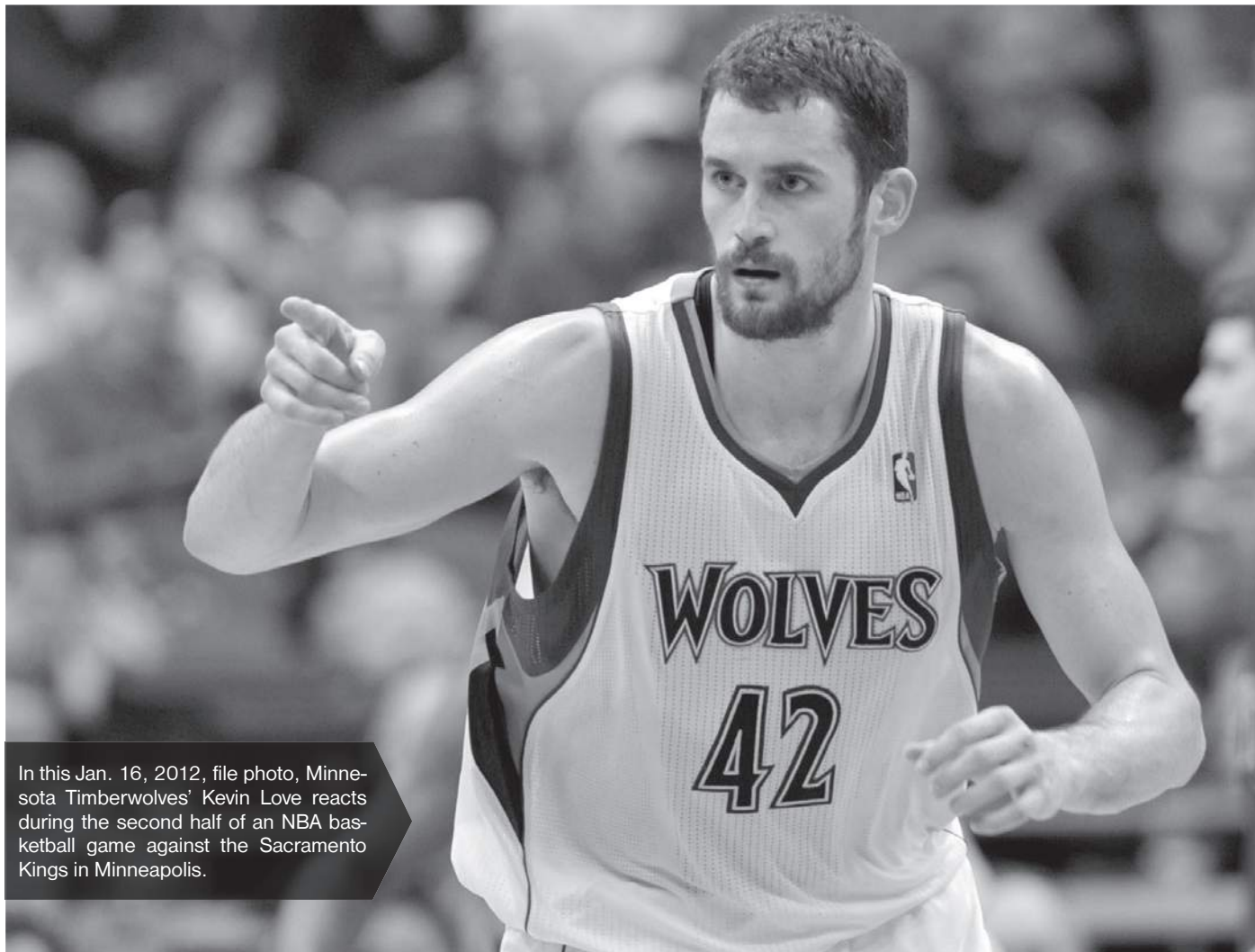
"When it boils down to it, Kevin over his six years, he kept on saying 'I want to win. I want to win,'" Timberwolves President Flip Saunders said. "Unfortunately over these last years, both him and the team haven't been able to do that. He felt it was best for him to go elsewhere."

"I was happy we were able to work with him and (agent) Jeff Schwartz and put him in a situation that he's going to have the ability to do that and we're going to have the ability for us to have an identity of where our team is at and continue to grow."

The Sixers received a 2015 first-round draft choice from Cleveland - ironically, one of the ones the Cavs got from Miami for James in 2010 - and guard Alexey Shved and forward Luc Mbah a Moute from the Timberwolves, who also receive a trade exception worth about \$6.3 million.

The Cavs and Timberwolves had discussed a trade involving Love for months, long before James decided to end his magnificent run with the Heat and come back home to Ohio. The deal dragged through the summer, first because of Cleveland's unwillingness to include Wiggins, and then due to a rarely used league rule that prohibited it from being completed until 30 days after Wiggins signed his rookie contract.

That bit of fine print in the



In this Jan. 16, 2012, file photo, Minnesota Timberwolves' Kevin Love reacts during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Sacramento Kings in Minneapolis.

collective bargaining agreement triggered an agonizing wait in both cities, more so in championship-starved Cleveland where generations of fans have longed for the Cavs, Indians or Browns to win it all.

But once the teams completed a conference call with the league on Saturday, there was nothing to prevent the planet's best player from aligning with the league's best power forward. Add in All-Star point

guard Kyrie Irving and James is the ringleader of a trio as potentially devastating as the one with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh he broke up last month.

"Kevin joining the Cavaliers represents a very special

and unique opportunity for our team," Cavs general manager David Griffin said. "At only 25, Kevin has already firmly established himself as one the NBA's elite players and his talent, versatility and fit are major parts of

our team's vision for success."

Love's arrival caps a stunning two-month turnaround for the Cavs, who won just 33 games last season and haven't been to the playoffs since James left in 2010.

Cleveland locked up Irving, last year's All-Star Game MVP, to a maximum contract extension on the first day of free agency and then James rocked the league by announcing his return to bring a title to Northeast Ohio. Beyond that, Cleveland signed free agents Shawn Marion, Mike Miller and James Jones, veteran players with NBA titles on their resumes.

Love is the biggest piece. He's coming off of his best season, averaging career highs in points (26.1) and assists (4.4) while grabbing 12.5 rebounds per game and shooting 37.6 percent on 3-pointers.

"Welcome to Cleveland Wes," Irving tweeted at Love, alluding to a Sprite ad campaign the two players starred in where Love played a character called "Uncle Wes."

Despite his play, the Wolves finished 40-42, well out of the playoff chase in the demanding Western Conference, and he made it clear to the organization that he would opt out of his contract next summer and look for a contender.

"I want to personally thank Kevin Love for his six seasons with the Wolves," Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor. "On the floor, Kevin has worked hard to make himself a great player in the NBA. He also made it a priority to give back to the community ... we wish him nothing but the best in Cleveland."

The Cavs were initially reluctant to deal Wiggins, the super-athletic small forward who spent one year at Kansas. The Timberwolves entertained offers from several other teams for Love, who can opt out of his contract next summer. But they stayed patient, and Cavs owner Dan Gilbert and Taylor agreed last month in Las Vegas that Wiggins had to be included.

Adding Wiggins, Bennett and Young, an underrated seven-year veteran who will start in Love's spot, along with first-round draft pick Zach LaVine transforms the Wolves into a far more dynamic team around pass-happy point guard Ricky Rubio.

"We've all of a sudden become athletic, exciting and fast instead of being maybe a little bit slower and more plodding," Saunders said.

For Cleveland, Love could cure years of frustration.

The city's pained wait to celebrate a title may be nearing an end.

James and Love are together again, and the hope of ending so much sports heartbreak rests on their shoulders.

Wiggins: rare No. 1 pick traded before rookie year

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The wait is almost over.

The blockbuster trade that will send Kevin Love to team up with LeBron James in Cleveland will be completed on Saturday, making the Cavaliers an instant favorite in the Eastern Conference and turning Andrew Wiggins into something of an anomaly.

When Wiggins is moved from the Cavs to the Minnesota Timberwolves in the deal, he will become just the second No. 1 overall draft pick to be traded without playing a game for the team that drafted him since the ABA and NBA merged in 1976.

The only other time it happened was in 1993 when the Orlando Magic traded Chris Webber to the Golden State Warriors for a package headlined by Penny Hardaway.

The Timberwolves will also get Anthony Bennett, the 2013 No. 1 pick, from Cleveland and veteran forward Thaddeus Young from Philadelphia in the three-team deal. The Sixers will get Miami's 2015 first-round pick from the Cavaliers and guard Alexey Shved and forward Luc Mbah a Moute from the Timberwolves in the trade, which cannot be announced until Saturday due to a seldom-used NBA rule that

prevents draft picks from being traded until 30 days after they sign their rookie contracts.

The Webber-Hardaway trade occurred on draft night, allowing both players and both teams involved to leave the venue that night with a clear picture of their respective futures.

Wiggins, on the other hand, has endured a much longer, more awkward process. He suited up for the Cavaliers at the Las Vegas summer league even as the rumors of his trade started to swirl. As the summer dragged on, the 19-year-old Canadian who spent one year at the University of Kansas even wore the Cleveland colors in a rookie photo shoot at the start of August.

Through it all, he sidestepped questions about where he was headed and steadfastly maintained the rumors didn't bother him.

"Anywhere, any team," he said earlier this month when asked about it at a promotional appearance. "I can play anywhere."

But Jayhawks coach Bill Self said that he thinks Wiggins has used the Cavaliers' decision to trade him as fuel.

"I think he's handled everything great. He's excited," Self said at a basketball camp earlier this month. "I think the

whole thing that's been blown out of proportion a bit is that he's been in limbo. He's known since the summer that he'd be traded. It's OK. In some ways he's looking forward to going to Minnesota."

The vast majority of top picks since the merger either have never been traded or were shipped out after spending at least four seasons with the team that drafted them.

Bennett, the No. 1 overall pick in 2013 who is headed from Cleveland to Minnesota with Wiggins, is unique in his own right in getting traded after just one year with the team that drafted him. He joins Pervis Ellison, who was traded from Sacramento to Washington after his rookie season in 1990, and Webber, who was traded from Golden State to Washington after one year, as the only No. 1s to be dealt that quickly.

That speaks to how highly the Cavaliers, and James in particular, think of Love. His versatility, shot-making, outlet passing and rebounding prowess will be a perfect fit for the James-led Cavaliers, just as it was when the two teamed up at the London Olympics with Team USA.

Love spent his first six seasons in Minnesota and has yet to make the playoffs. That lack

of success caused him to inform management this summer that he intended to opt out of his contract next July and sign with a contender, so the Wolves started to entertain offers.

The Cavaliers jumped into the mix right after James decided to return home and shot to the top of the list of suitors when they decided to make Wiggins, a super-athletic, 6-foot-8 forward, available.

Now that he is coming to Minnesota with the added motivation of being an outlier is just icing on the cake in the Wolves' eyes.

They see two young players with the talent that made them No. 1 picks and the motivation to show the Cavaliers they shouldn't have given up on them this quickly, even if they were getting a three-time All-Star and one of the best of offensive players in return.

"When all this trade stuff started, I talked to Andrew and Andrew told me, 'I hope I get traded,'" Self said. "And I'm like, 'No you don't.' And he said, 'Coach, I do. It's better for me, knowing my personality and what I need to do, to go somewhere where I'm forced to be something as opposed to going in there where they're going to be patient with me and I'm going to be a piece.'"

Nationals chase Lincecum early, defeat Giants, 6-2



WASHINGTON (AP)—Jordan Zimmermann pitched eight solid

innings and Asdrubal Cabrera hit a home run as the Washington Nationals once again beat Tim Lincecum in a 6-2 win Saturday over San Francisco.

Jayson Werth hit a pair of RBI singles for the NL East-leading Nationals, one night after San Francisco ended their 10-game winning streak.

Zimmermann (9-5) got off to a shaky start when Angel Pagan led off with a double and Hunter Pence followed with a home run. Zimmermann quickly settled in and allowed seven hits overall, striking out eight without a walk.

Lincecum (10-9) was seeking his 100th career win, but turned in the second-shortest start in the majors. He gave up six runs on six hits and four walks in 2 2-3 innings.

In his last seven starts against Washington, he's 0-6 and has permitted 34 earned runs in 32 2-3 innings.

Athletics 2, Angels 1

In Oakland, California, Coco Crisp scored the go-ahead run off Joe Smith's wild pitch with two outs in the eighth inning as Oakland moved into a share of first-place with Los Angeles atop the AL West.

Luke Gregerson (3-2) pitched a perfect eighth, and Sean Doolittle finished for his 20th save.

The division co-leaders (76-52) have the most wins in baseball. The Angels lost their fifth straight game this season at the Oakland Coliseum.

Smith (5-2) threw wildly to pinch-hitter Brandon Moss moments after plunking Derek Norris.

Jon Lester and C.J. Wilson had a nice pitchers' duel but left with no-decisions in a tie game.

Royals 6, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Texas, Jeremy Guthrie gave up a home run on his first pitch and not much else, leading Kansas City past Texas for its 24th win in 30 games.

Alex Gordon had two hits, including a first-inning homer, and made a diving catch in left field for the AL Central leaders.

Guthrie (10-10) won for the fifth time in six starts. Shin-Soo Choo hit a leadoff homer — after that, Guthrie blanked the Rangers on four more hits before leaving after the eighth.

The Royals broke a 1-all tie by scoring three runs in the fifth, capitalizing on the wildness of Nick Tepesch (4-8). He gave up three four-pitch walks and two singles that inning.

Jarrod Dyson drove in three runs, matching a career high, with a bases-loaded walk and a two-run single for the Royals.

Dodgers 7, Mets 4

In Los Angeles, Adrian Gon-



AP
Washington Nationals right fielder Jayson Werth celebrates after scoring the winning run in a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates, Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014, in Washington.

zalez equaled a season best with five RBIs, including a go-ahead, three-run homer that sent Los Angeles past New York.

The Dodgers beat the Mets for the 13th time in 15 meetings and increased their NL West lead over San Francisco to 4 1/2 games.

Zack Greinke (13-8) allowed four runs—three earned—and nine hits in seven innings, throwing 105 pitches on seven days' rest. He struck out four after he was pushed back two days because of elbow discomfort.

The 2009 AL Cy Young Award winner allowed a three-run homer to Juan Lagares and Lucas Duda's 24th of the year. Kenley Jansen closed for his 37th save.

Jacob deGrom (6-6) gave up five runs over six innings after getting reinstated from the disabled list.

Cubs 7, Orioles 2

In Chicago, Chris Coghlan finally solved Bud Norris with a bases-loaded triple, leading the Chicago Cubs over Baltimore.

Cubs rookie Javier Baez hit his seventh homer in a game delayed because of rain for more than three hours.

Justin Grimm (4-2) pitched 3 1-3 hitless innings as the last-place Cubs won their second straight against the AL East leaders.

Coghlan was 0 for 15 with six strikeouts against Norris (11-8) before hitting his fifth triple of the season.

Before the game, the Orioles announced injured All-Star third baseman Manny Machado had decided to have season-ending right knee surgery.

Mariners 7, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Dustin Ackley's three-run homer capped a seven-run fourth inning that

carried Seattle over Boston, sending the Red Sox to their seventh straight loss.

It was the ninth win in 12 games for the Mariners, who increased their slim lead over Detroit for the second AL wild card.

Boston designated hitter David Ortiz had his streak of reaching base four times in four straight games halted, but he did walk and was hit by a pitch before leaving with a bruised left elbow.

Trailing 3-0 in the fourth, the Mariners chased starter Brandon Workman (1-8) with their big inning.

Tom Wilhelmsen (2-2) struck out three in 1 1-3 innings of relief after starter Chris Young couldn't make it out of the fourth.

Twins 12, Tigers 4, 1st game Tigers 8, Twins 6, 2nd game

In Minneapolis, Justin Verlander labored into the sixth inning and Nick Castellanos had two RBIs as Detroit salvaged a doubleheader split by beating Minnesota.

Torii Hunter and J.D. Martinez each had three of Detroit's 17 hits, and Joe Nathan notched his 27th save in 32 attempts. Verlander (11-11) improved to 5-0 in seven career starts at Target Field.

Still, with their loss in the afternoon, the Tigers dropped a season-worst three games behind first-place Kansas City in the AL Central. They also fell a game behind Seattle for the second wild-card spot.

In the opener, Twins rookie Kennys Vargas drove in five runs and starter Yohan Pino (2-5) struck out six in five innings. Joe Mauer had three RBIs.

Trevor May (0-3) failed to hold a 4-2 lead in the nightcap.

Vargas finished the day with six RBIs and has 23 in his first 22 major league games, all this month.

Minnesota scored seven runs in the opener off starter Buck Farmer (0-1), who managed only four outs one day after the Twins routed the Tigers 20-6.

Yankees 5, White Sox 3

In New York, Carlos Beltran gave the Yankees' struggling offense a jolt with a home run in his return to the lineup, and Martin Prado had another go-ahead hit in a win over Chicago.

Hiroki Kuroda (9-8) worked in and out of trouble for six innings, allowing two runs and five hits in helping New York to its third straight win after a 2-7 stretch.

Beltran missed the previous three games because of a sore right elbow. He singled and scored in the fourth, then opened the sixth with a homer off Scott Carroll (5-8).

Prado hit a two-run double in the fourth that put New York up for good. He had a game-ending RBI single with two outs in the ninth Friday night.

The Yankees scored more than four runs for the first time since Aug. 8, a span of 11 games.

David Robertson pitched a scoreless ninth for his 34th save. Yankees batters did not strike out in a game for the first time since May 12, 2011, in an 11-5 loss to Kansas City.

The White Sox wasted an early lead for the second straight night, matching a season high with their fifth loss in a row.

Blue Jays 5, Rays 4, 10 innings

In Toronto, Jose Reyes singled home the winning run with two outs in the 10th inning as

Toronto beat Tampa Bay in a game the Rays played under protest.

The Blue Jays took a 4-3 lead in the seventh when Dioner Navarro hit a two-run homer off Brad Boxberger, but closer Casey Janssen couldn't hold on. Pinch-hitter James Loney singled home the tying run with one out in the ninth, handing Janssen his fourth blown save.

Colby Rasmus reached on a bunt single to begin the 10th against Joel Peralta (2-4) and stole second. Dustin McGowan (5-3) worked one inning for the win, and the Blue Jays improved to 6-13 in August.

Rays manager Joe Maddon protested the game in the fourth, claiming umpires granted Toronto a replay challenge after the next play had begun.

Pirates 10, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Pedro Alvarez homered twice to break out of a 5-for-34 slump in Pittsburgh's victory over Milwaukee.

Alvarez hit a three-run shot in the fourth inning and a solo drive in the fifth against starter Wily Peralta (15-8). Russell Martin also connected for a three-run homer off the right-hander, who held the Pirates hitless for 3 2-3 innings but quickly fell apart.

Neil Walker had three hits and three RBIs.

Pittsburgh starter Edinson Volquez (11-7) pitched out of trouble almost every inning to improve to 3-0 in five August starts. The right-hander allowed 11 hits in 5 2-3 innings, but Milwaukee managed only two runs off him.

Third-place Pittsburgh won its third consecutive game to pull within four of the NL Central-leading Brewers.

Indians 3, Astros 2

In Cleveland, Jose Ramirez's

ninth-inning single lifted Cleveland over Houston.

Pinch-hitter Tyler Holt started the inning with a single off Jake Buchanan (1-3). After Roberto Perez moved Holt to second with a sacrifice, Michael Bourn walked. Buchanan's wild pitch pushed the runners to second and third before Ramirez lined a 3-2 pitch past third base.

Cleveland has 10 walk-off wins this season. Cody Allen (5-3) struck out two in a perfect ninth.

Trying to stay in playoff contention, the Indians (65-63) have won eight of 12.

Diamondbacks 5, Padres 2

In Phoenix, Didi Gregorius hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning after Arizona blew the lead in the top half, lifting the Diamondbacks over San Diego.

Vidal Nuno pitched effectively into the eighth and was in line for his first win with Arizona since being traded by the New York Yankees on July 6. Instead, the Padres loaded the bases and Yangervis Solarte hit a two-run single off Oliver Perez (3-3).

The Diamondbacks answered in the bottom half, when Gregorius tomahawked an 0-2 pitch just over the wall in right off Kevin Quackenbush (2-3) for his third hit in 40 at-bats over 11 games.

Jake Lamb singled to set up Gregorius' big hit and had his first career homer in the second.

Addison Reed worked a perfect ninth for his 30th save.

Nuno gave up two hits in 7 2-3 innings but is winless in nine games since the trade—the longest streak to start a career by an Arizona player.

Andrew Cashner made his first start for San Diego since coming off the disabled list and allowed two runs in five innings.

Cardinals 6, Phillies 5, 12 innings

In Philadelphia, Matt Carpenter hit a sacrifice fly in the 12th inning to lift St. Louis over Philadelphia.

Jonny Peralta homered for the Cardinals, who have won eight of 10 and closed within a half-game of NL Central-leading Milwaukee.

Ryan Howard homered, and Marlon Byrd and Carlos Ruiz each drove in a pair of runs for the Phillies.

Pinch-hitter Daniel Descalso drew a leadoff walk in the 12th from Ken Giles (2-1). Descalso went to second on Jon Jay's sacrifice and moved to third on Peter Bourjos' infield single.

Seth Maness (5-2) pitched two scoreless innings and Trevor Rosenthal earned his 38th save in 43 chances.

The Week in Sports

CNMI junior tennis players show wares in Fiji

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The CNMI's junior tennis players returned to action after more than a month of break, competing in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last week.

The Commonwealth sent 11 players in Fiji with coach Jeff Race guiding the squad. The CNMI fielded Ken Song, Robbie Schorr, Asia Raulerson, Malika Miyawaki, and Conatsu Kaga in the U12 singles and doubles events, Luther Lizama, Tania Tan, Carol Lee, Julia Ishikawa, and Ami Tsukagoshi joined the U14 contest, and

Colin Ramsey competed in the U16 age group.

Lee emerged as the best finish among the CNMI bets after ruling the girls U14 singles, while Ramsey partnered with the Federate State of Micronesia's Terry Rush in the boys U16 doubles and advanced to the finals. Schorr and Miyawaki made it to the semifinals of the U12 singles, while Lizama earned a Final Four berth in the boys U14 singles.

Meanwhile, in local events, the various basketball leagues on Saipan continued with their respective games.

The 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League con-

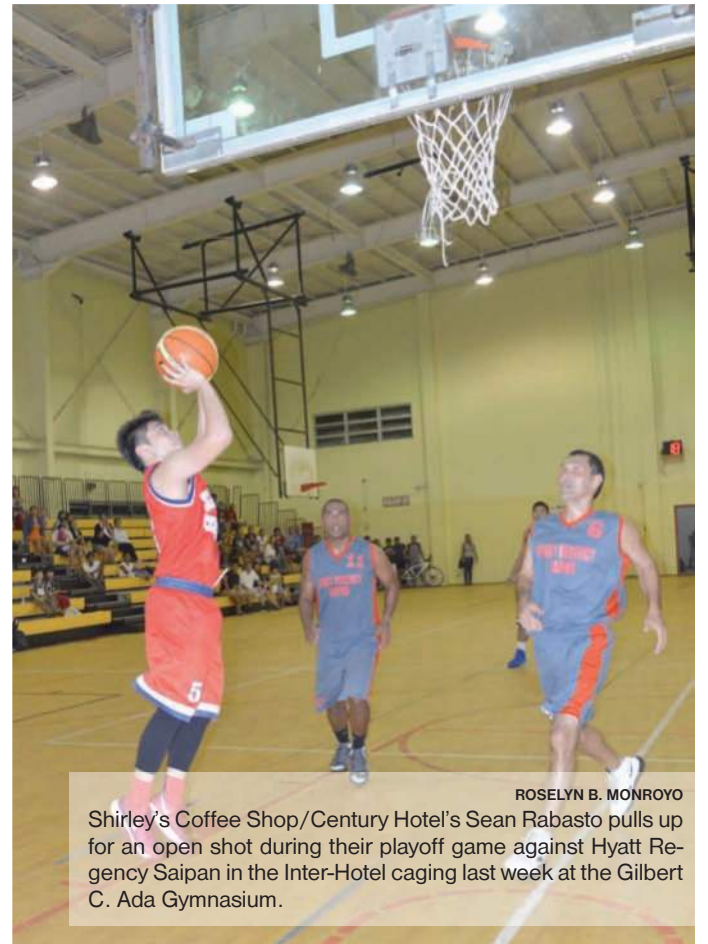
cluded their round-robin regular season at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan topping the seven-team field. Pacific Islands Club (5-1) dropped to second, followed by World Resort (4-2), Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel (4-2), Hyatt Regency Saipan (2-4), Kanoa Resort (1-5), and Mariana Resort (0-6). Shirley's/Century and Hyatt went on to battle in the first round of the playoffs last Thursday with the former winning, 62-57.

Still at the Ada Gym, the 2014 Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League-Docomo Pacific Cup

concluded its elimination round with Blue Haus the lone undefeated team in the league with its 6-0 record. Mariana Resort is in close second with its 5-1 slate, followed by Armatech (4-2), Hawaiian Rock (3-3), PIC Chefs (2-4), D&Q (1-5), and I Love Saipan (0-6).

Two other leagues held their regular season matches last week with Blue Haus and TBK Mechanics winning in the DL Corp Invitational Basketball League Season 4 at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium and Ghasias Brothers and Flip Top prevailing in the 2014 DLX Invitational Basketball League at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Over at the TSL Sports Complex, elimination round matches in the 2014 Shirley's Badminton Classic took place over the weekend, while at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort, 15 bouts were featured in the Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel's Sean Rabasto pulls up for an open shot during their playoff game against Hyatt Regency Saipan in the Inter-Hotel caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players and coaches of the North Pacific Team pose for a group photo during the opening of the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The female players of the North Pacific Team pose for a group photo during a break in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Colin Ramsey, right, poses with doubles teammate Terry Rush of the Federated States of Micronesia before playing in the finals of the boys U16 division in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

CNMI junior tennis players and coach Jeff Race, standing fourth from left, pose at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport as they headed to Fiji for the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas, right, steps back to avoid a cross from Rocky Quichocho during the second round of their heavy-weight bout in last Friday's Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.



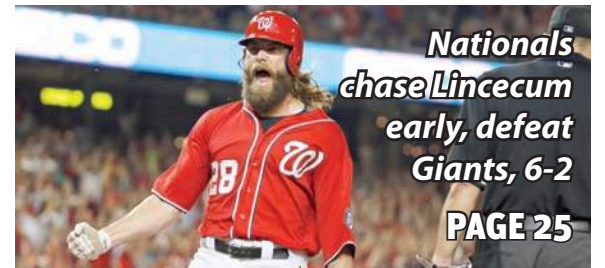
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Two fighters exchange kicks during last Friday's Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Kevin Love traded
to Cavs, joins
LeBron

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Nationals
chase Lincecum
early, defeat
Giants, 6-2

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Lee clinches U14 crown in POJC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Carol Lee bagged the girls U14 singles championship in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after sweeping her finals opponent last Friday in Lautoka Fiji.

Lee was paired against New Caledonia's Leo Bolo and won the battle of the Top 2 seeds in the division with a straight set victory, 6-0, 6-2. With Lee's triumph, she gave the CNMI its lone gold medal in the singles play and duplicated her feat last year. Lee clinched the girls U12 singles last year and also handed the Commonwealth its only first place finish in the annual competition.

The 13-year-old Lee boosted her chances for a second age group championship in POJC after slipping past Fiji's Ruby Coffin in the semifinals last



Thursday, 2-6, 7-5, 6-4. Bolo also defeated a Fijian bet in Vienna Kumar, 6-0, 6-2, to earn the right to face the top-ranked Lee. Coffin went on to win third place after sweeping Kumar in the consolation match, 6-1, 6-1. Meanwhile, the 10 other CNMI players in the POJC also completed their singles games last Friday.

In the boys U14 singles, Luther Lizama settled for fourth place after dropping his consolation game to Tahiti's Honoarii

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Shirley's/Century Hotel draws first blood, 62-57

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel survived the first round of the playoffs in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-

Hotel Basketball League after downing defending champion Hyatt Regency Saipan, 62-57, last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rommel Usi and
See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel's John Jugos, left, sneaks in to try to steal the ball from Hyatt Regency Saipan's Yoh Gabaldon during the fourth quarter of their playoff game in the Inter-Hotel caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Carol Lee, seen here competing in the 2014 White Coconut Classic early this year at the AMP tennis courts, won the girls U14 singles crown in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championship in Fiji last Friday.

Santos steals show in ROP 17

TRENCH TECH

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ryan Toves got his much needed payback, but the fight of the night belonged to the brave Ernie Santos who stole victory from an over-confident Mark "The Dark" Nuique in the penultimate bout in last Friday's Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

With blood all over his face and scattered around the octagon cage due to two nasty cuts he sustained in the first two

See SANTOS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

High Blood Pressure's Ernie Santos uses his arms to lock the neck of Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique during their bout in last Friday's Rites of Passage: Road to Glory at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.